The Nation.

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The Week.

WE have been asked to state exactly what are the differences between the Dingley bill and the present (Wilson) tariff in regard to the duties on books. It will perhaps be helpful to include the McKinley tariff also in the comparison, and to begin with that, since it is the first of the three in point of time. The differences are found in the free list of the several measures, and are as follows:

M'KINLEY.	WILSON.	DINGLEY.
(1.) Books, etc., more than 20 years old, free.	(1.) Same, plus works of original scientific research.	(1.) 25 per cent.
(2.) Books, etc., in other languages than English, and books for the blind, free.	(2.) Same.	(2.) 25 per cent.
(3.) Books, etc., for colleges and societies, not exceeding two copies to each, free.	(3.) Same.	(3.) Free, except such as are made in the U. S.
(4.) Books as household and professional effects of persons returning from abroad, free.	(4.) Same.	(4.) 25 per cent., unless included in the $100 worth exempted for personal baggage.
(5.) Books for the use of the United States and Library of Congress, free.	(5.) Same.	(5.) Free.

Nothing illustrates the reactionary and mediæval character of the Dingley bill more strikingly than this tax on knowledge, which, according to the author of it, was adopted, not for revenue and not even for protection, but to save trouble for custom-house inspectors. Those hard-worked people can be required to count the number of threads in a square inch of cotton or linen cloth, and the number of tufts of bristles in a tooth-brush, to measure the "lines" of pearl buttons, to make intricate and prolonged chemical tests every day, in order to arrive at the dutiable value of a thousand different articles of commerce. No wonder they are tired, poor things! when they have made all these experiments, and have no strength left to tell whether a book is more than twenty years old, or whether it is printed in a foreign language, or whether it is imported for an educational institution, a public library, or a philosophical society.

Mr. Dingley has discovered that the blessings of a tariff cannot be felt before the bill becomes law, nor "even immediately afterwards." How long, then, have we to wait? At least a year after the passage of the bill—that is Mr. Dingley's present position. He sorrowfully points out that "practically a year's stock of goods will have been brought into the country from abroad before the tariff bill becomes a law." Prosperity cannot come until "time is given for the absorption of the enormous amounts of foreign goods now being forced upon the market." That time he fixes at a year or thereabouts after enactment. But when will enactment come? By July 1, Mr. Dingley "hopes." Granting that, what will Mr. Dingley have accomplished? Why, he himself told us in his report: "It is easy to see how a delay in the enactment of the bill to July 1, for example, would easily take from the Treasury $15,000,000 of revenue, and turn it into the pockets of speculators importing wool, sugar, etc." That looks like a slice of prosperity—for the speculators. But Mr. Dingley sings another tune at the end of April from the one he favored us with in the middle of March. Then the bill was to be law by May 1; now by July 1, he "hopes." But the better opinion is that August 1 will be an early date. It may be much later. With "prosperity" thus confessedly adjourned till August-October, 1898, what becomes of the congressional election in that year? What becomes of President McKinley's assertion that we can approach the problem of a high tariff "calmly and patriotically, without fearing its effect upon an early election"?

The intention of the opposition to the Republican party in Congress regarding the tariff bill is becoming perfectly clear. The Populist and Independent Silver Senators, who hold the balance of power in the upper branch, will help to make it as bad as possible, and then let it pass, for reasons thus stated by the Washington correspondent of the *American Wool and Cotton Reporter:*

"It may be said that recent events make it almost certain that a bill will pass. The Populist and Independent Silver Senators have practically made up their minds that a protective tariff policy shall be put in execution. Their theory is, that the policy will prove a failure, and that the country will turn in eager haste to their policy of free silver coinage in the next elections. They propose to permit a protective bill to go upon the statute books by withholding their votes from both sides upon the final vote on the bill, if it is apparent that the Republicans have a majority sufficient for passing the bill. Populist votes will be contributed in the necessary number if Republican votes are insufficient."

The Democrats will vote against the bill, but both Senator Jones of Arkansas and Representative Bailey of Texas, their leaders in the two branches, virtually admit the satisfaction with which they will view its passage from the political point of view. Not a few Republicans in Congress share the conviction of the whole opposition that the bill is certain to produce a tremendous reaction in the next elections, but they seem helpless to resist the current which is sweeping their party to destruction.

The Democratic members of the finance committee of the Senate will not agree to the proposition of their Republican colleagues to allow the tariff bill to be reported direct to the Senate without being discussed by the full committee. In this they are only doing the duty for which they were put on the committee. If a majority of a committee may prepare a bill in secret, and the minority then withdraw and agree that it shall be reported without their looking into it, or considering whether it is bad or good, or what sort of a measure they would themselves recommend, there is obviously no reason for their being on the committee at all. The true way would be for the party in control to make the committees consist only of its own members. The object of party representation on committees is not mere fairness, but that thorough preparation shall be made for debate. This is possible only if measures are properly canvassed by both sides in advance. What the Republicans propose is a very good preparation for "jamming through," not for debate. We do not, for our part, understand how any self-respecting member of a legislative body can agree to let the majority of a committee of which he is a member report a bill secretly prepared, and which he has had no opportunity to discuss in committee.

President McKinley's four appointments of New Yorkers last week illustrate perfectly his conception of executive duty in the filling of federal offices. For the most important post-office in the country he selects Cornelius Van Cott of this city; for Third Assistant Postmaster-General, John A. Merritt of Lockport; for Internal-Revenue Collector in the First District, Frank R. Moore of Brooklyn; and for Postmaster at Elmira, Melvin M. Conkling. Of these four, Van Cott, Merritt, and Conkling have always been faithful supporters of the Platt machine, and they were picked out for these offices by the "Government" of the State, the President of the United States merely recording the Senator's will; while Moore was pushed for the collectorship by the anti-Platt element and the "original McKinley men." Having bagged the two most important places, as well as the Elmira office, the Senator can afford to let his opponents have the unimportant collectorship, while the original McKinleyites secure as much recognition as they are entitled to by their proportional numbers. If one were to seek the man best qualified to make an efficient postmaster of the metropolis, Mr. Van Cott would not be chosen. He

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is a thorough going spoilsman in theory, but happily he was prevented from putting his principles in practice during his first term, as he will also be again now, by the obstacles of the civil-service law.

The announcement that Bellamy Storer of Cincinnati is to be Minister to Belgium, instead of First Assistant Secretary of State, records the formal surrender of the appointing power by the President to the Senate. Mr. Storer aspired to the place in the State Department, for which he is excellently qualified; Secretary Sherman would have been glad to see him occupy it; Mr. McKinley himself earnestly desired to name him for that office. But the President had begun by notifying the Republican Senators that he would make no nomination to which a Senator from the State affected might object. Senator Foraker has been on bad terms with Mr. Storer, and served notice that he would not have him in the State Department. The President meekly yielded, but asked the dictator if he would object to giving Mr. Storer some other office. Mr. Foraker said that Mr. Storer might be sent out of the country with his permission, and he accordingly goes to Belgium. At the same time senatorial consent was given in advance to the nomination of a Canton neighbor of McKinley's, Mr. Day, to the place in the State Department. The practical significance of this selection is that the President will run the State Department through his next friend; Secretary Sherman being nothing more than a figurehead. The first assistant-secretaryship has been filled with distinction by Mr. Rockhill, who reached the position by deserved promotions. Mr. Day is not known to the country at large. He has twice been given a seat upon the bench, in the Common Pleas Court of Ohio and the United States District Court, and it is to be hoped that he has the judicial mind which our foreign relations so imperatively require just now.

The first intimation of any sort as to the policy of the Administration regarding Hawaii comes in the appointment of a Jingo and annexationist as United States Minister. Young Sewall showed himself unfit for responsibility by his conduct while Consul-General to the Samoan Islands; he is a shifty character, having changed from Democrat to Republican after Mr. Cleveland refused him an office in his second Administration; he is an ardent advocate of the policy of annexing Hawaii; and he is capable of making quite as much trouble as the other Maine man who tried to rush the islands into the Union under Harrison. However, new complications have arisen since that day, regarding the sugar question, which involve the pending tariff bill, the beet-sugar people in this country being now opposed to annexation as they are to reciprocity with Hawaii; and new influences may thus enter into the decision of the question now.

That the mission of Messrs. Wolcott, Paine, and Stevenson is destined to failure is sufficiently indicated by the London *Times*, which says that the fad of bimetallism rises and falls in England in inverse ratio with the state of trade. When business is good, people do not want bimetallism. When it is bad, they begin to complain about the currency. "Trade, happily, is good at present," it says, "and Mr. Wolcott will find sympathy with his views correspondingly languid." The prospect on the Continent is no better. It adds:

> "Neither France nor Germany, in spite of official coquettings with the bimetallist Agrarians, has any reason for discontent with her existing monetary system, nor is Russia, who quite recently established the gold standard, at all likely to entertain proposals for unsettling all that she has just deliberately settled. That the greatest commercial nation of the Far East has also established a gold standard is a fact by no means without importance in European calculations."

The *Times* concludes by saying that, at all events, President McKinley "will be able to point to its labors as redeeming his election promises, and to their failure as showing that if America wants free silver, she must procure it for herself at her own risk." That is just where the Bryanites will "come in." When the Wolcott-Paine-Stevenson Commission returns empty-handed, the Popocrats will exclaim with one accord: "We told you so—now give us 16 to 1 by independent action."

The personal financial motive for their support of the free-coinage movement has always been plain enough in the cases of the silver-mine owners who were so prominent in the campaign of last year. The recent failure of the Globe Savings Bank in Chicago is revealing an equally strong personal financial motive for desiring the monetary convulsion which the free coinage policy would have precipitated, on the part of ex-Gov. Altgeld of Illinois, the chief advocate of Bryanism in the central West. It appears that Altgeld had borrowed heavily from the bank through his influence over Spalding, the man who controlled the institution and who finally wrecked it; and when it closed its doors, more than $32,000 due it, directly and indirectly, from the Governor had been charged up to profit and loss by the bank examiner. Altgeld is a man of so much ability that he is a dangerous demagogue, and it is therefore fortunate that his utter untrustworthiness should have been so conclusively demonstrated. The scandal of his connection with the ruin of this savings-bank is something from which he can hardly recover.

When it was announced last November that McKinley had received nearly 300,000 more votes than Bryan in Pennsylvania, the idea that the State might be doubtful in the election a year later would have seemed too absurd for consideration. Yet one Republican newspaper after another is now serving notice that if the Legislature goes on to the end in the way that it has pursued thus far—and everybody expects that it will—the party may be beaten in the contest over the State treasurership next fall. The Republicans have twice in State conventions explicitly promised radical reform measures, and public sentiment is especially set upon one such measure for the payment of interest on State deposits in the banks. At present, millions of dollars are placed in favored banks which pay nothing for the privilege, while $120,000 a year ought to be received. A feint has been made of introducing and pushing bills to reform this abuse, but things have already been so arranged that these bills will fail. The most encouraging feature of the situation is a report that the Republican Business Men's League may nominate an independent candidate for State Treasurer on the platform of interest on State deposits, with the expectation of thus defeating the Quay nominee and electing a Democrat.

The distinguishing characteristic of the Legislature which finished its work at Albany on Saturday was its open hostility to the Constitution of the State. Its chief acts were aimed directly at the spirit, if not the letter, of the Constitution, for purposes of destruction. Nearly every previous Legislature, no matter how bad its general character, has done a few things which were in the public interest, some of them conspicuously so. It is impossible to find any measure of large importance in the list of new laws left by the present body of which this can be said. The decent public opinion of the State has been disregarded more completely than ever before; not only have its demands passed unheeded, but its protests have been overridden with defiant contempt. The most conspicuous acts passed were the charter for Greater New York, the civil-service looting bill, and the Raines liquor-law amendments. In the consideration and passage of these both local public sentiment and the Constitution were defied. When the new Constitution was placed before the people for adoption in 1894, no two provisions of it received more cordial approval than those relating to home rule for cities and civil-service reform. The convention which drafted it had a large Republican majority, and the instrument was recommended to the people by that majority in a formal address, explaining its provisions. The Republican platform of that year commended it, and so did Republican organizations generally. The provision which required the submission to

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mayors of all legislation affecting their cities was regarded as one of the most important recognitions of the home-rule idea for cities that had ever been embedded in the fundamental law. That on civil-service reform was dwelt upon in the address of the Republican members of the convention as a most valuable step in the direction of the extension of the competitive system to the entire service of the State. Yet a Republican Legislature has done its utmost to destroy both provisions.

Gov. Black has consented to give the opponents of his civil service looting bill a hearing before he signs it, and we have no doubt that they will make the most of the opportunity. That he intends to sign it in the end, there is little doubt, for he is the author of it, and its passage through the Legislature was due entirely to the pressure which he exerted personally in its support. He differs from the other members of the Platt party in being willing to pay a little attention to the respectable elements of the population. Platt, Payn, Raines, and their kind do not consider it necessary longer even to "pander a little to the moral sense of the community." They ignore it entirely, believing that they can keep in power in spite of its opposition. The Governor's way is to listen to it politely and disregard its opinions and requests. This method of procedure must fill the "tried and true" Platt men with disgust, but, so long as the Governor does their work in the end, they are probably content.

The New York Senate passed last week the Dudley inheritance-tax bill, which had already passed the Assembly. This bill provides, in substance, that whenever there is an inheritance tax of 5 per cent. and the value of the estate exceeds $500,000, an additional tax shall be imposed on the entire personal estate so taxable, at the accumulating rate of 1 per cent. for each additional $250,000, except that if the entire estate exceeds $3,000,000, it shall be subject to taxation only at the aggregate rate of 15 per cent.; and that if the tax is 1 per cent., and the estate exceeds $1,000,000, an additional tax shall be imposed on the entire personal estate so taxable at the accumulating rate of one-half of 1 per cent. for each additional $250,000 or major fraction thereof up to $2,500,000, and 1 per cent. on the entire personal estate for each additional $250,000 or major fraction thereof above $2,500,000, except that if the entire estate exceeds $4,000,000, it shall be subject to taxation under this section only at the aggregate rate of 10 per cent. A well-known man, supposed all his life to be very rich, died in New York the other day, and it appeared that his estate amounted to only $1,000. There may, of course, be no connection between the fact and the pendency of this bill.

What is wanted most of all in the Police Board at this time is a man with such intimate knowledge of police administration, such intimate knowledge of Commissioner Parker's peculiarities and performances, and such integrity of character that he cannot be either cajoled or deluded into allowing Parker's schemes for turning the Police Department over to the control of the Platt-Lauterbach machine to succeed. That Mr. Moss, Mayor Strong's appointee to succeed Mr. Roosevelt, has all these qualifications, is admitted by everybody. Lauterbach admits it, and so does Platt's personal organ, and so do all the other open and secret opponents of real police reform, both in and out of the press. They all bewail the fatuity of the Mayor in making an appointment which destroys all hope of "harmony" in the Police Board. What would harmony in the board mean now? Simply union in favor of rascally administration. No honest man can be harmonious with Parker and Grant. They have been for months conspiring to thwart the efforts of Messrs. Roosevelt and Andrews to remove the police force permanently from the reach of partisan politics of all kinds. Nothing but the "crankiness" and "impracticability" of Roosevelt and Andrews has prevented their success. When Roosevelt went out, they stood two to one in favor of success, and they immediately endeavored to grasp it by trying to get possession of the presidency of the board by a trick. The honesty of their own chief clerk alone defeated them. Mr. Moss's appointment puts a permanent bar to success in that direction hereafter.

Ever since the system of prohibition in Iowa was so modified as to permit the sale of liquor under the so-called mulct law, where a petition is signed by 50 per cent. of the voters in cities and 65 per cent. in counties, the State has presented the anomalous spectacle of allowing a thing to be sold the manufacture of which was forbidden. The absurdity of outlawing breweries and distilleries in Iowa while permitting the admission of their products from other States was sufficiently obvious, but it has taken years of agitation to put an end to it. At last the Legislature has passed a law allowing manufacture under certain conditions, the measure barely squeezing through the upper branch by the votes of the seven Democrats and nineteen of the Republicans, while twenty-four of the dominant party stood out against it. The petition feature of the mulct law is maintained, and 50 or 65 per cent. of the voters, as the case may be, must sign a request for the establishment of the business before it can be established. There are all sorts of peculiarities about liquor legislation in Iowa. While the mulct law allows the sale in a city of over 5,000 inhabitants without regard to the sentiment of the county at large, a city of less than 5,000 people has been unable to legalize it unless 65 per cent. of all the voters in the county petition for it. An amendment has just been adopted which is aimed at this inconsistency, but which still falls far short of introducing majority rule; it allows the sale in any town of from 2,500 to 5,000 people, without regard to the rest of the county, but requires a petition signed by 80 per cent. of the voters in the town.

The ratification of the treaty between Mexico and England fixing the boundaries of the British possession of Belize has been strangely overlooked by our most sensitive and jealous patriots. The treaty actually gives England a few more roods of sacred American soil than she had been occupying. Merely to state this horrible fact should be enough. What would Monroe say to this? What does Morgan say? What Lodge? It is the latter, in fact, bettering Monroe, whose own pet doctrine is flagrantly violated. When the Venezuela wrangle was pending, President Cleveland was weak enough to admit that if Venezuela would amicably agree to give up to England a part of the territory in dispute, we should have nothing more to say. Lodge sternly interposed. This was a fatal yielding of the true principle, which was, that not a foot of American soil (whether swamp or sand-bank) should be given to a European Power, whether its owner wanted to give it or not. We simply could not permit it in our sovereign Pan-Americanism. That is the Lodge Doctrine which Mexico has now openly flouted.

The military operations on the Thessalian border during the week have ended in something like a débâcle for the Greeks, who have been driven out of Tyrnavos and Larissa, and have fallen back on Pharsalos, leaving Volo uncovered except by the fleet. In Epirus nothing seems to have been achieved except the unchaining of Albanian mutineers to terrorize the whole community, while the destructive descent of the Greek war-ships on the coast of the Gulf of Salonica has not in the least embarrassed Edhem Pasha's command or checked his steady and victorious advance. The Greek Government has been forced to change its commanders under fire. Athens is in a state of excitement which bodes ill to the dynasty, whose choice lay between succumbing to the mob before or after a duel with Turkey. The Providence which has saved Italy in similar straits seems wanting to Greece, and her only assurance is that the frontier fruitlessly defended and now overrun will not be permanently pushed southward, the Powers in concert having already declared their intention to maintain the territorial *status quo*, whatever the fortune of war. For the rest, Delyannis's light-heartedness appears destined to reap the same harvest as Ollivier's.

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THE REFORM CLUB DINNER.

THE speeches made by the Gold Democrats on Saturday evening differed from ordinary political speeches in one vital respect—that what was said was all true. This was the reason, apart from the inherent merits of the speeches themselves, which were very great, why they were received with such spontaneous applause. Every one who listened to them knew that the speakers were not bidding for office, not providing clap-trap and buncombe for popular consumption, nor doing anything but stating in plain language their real convictions about public affairs. The force of what was said was increased by the fact that these convictions were both deep and of long standing, and that the men who announced their determination to stand by them had sustained within six months, without flinching, the most tremendous defeat recorded in the history of American parties. The cheers which greeted what they said were cheers which meant that the language of truth, resolution, and courage was refreshing and inspiriting to ears wearied with party jargon and lies. Even Luther's old words, with which Mr. Cleveland concluded his speech, "Here we stand. We cannot do otherwise," did not seem forced or out of place.

When we examine what was said at the dinner we find plenty of proof that the real Democrats fully understand the situation in which they are placed, and that they are prepared to take and are now taking those steps by which alone they can recover the control of the following led away by Bryan, and also attract to their support—for this is equally essential—the independent vote which for twelve years supported Mr. Cleveland, and which by the extraordinary events of last summer was driven into a wholly unnatural alliance with protection. These steps are, in sum and substance, the creation of an active opposition to the party now in control, not merely out of Congress, where "organization," however thorough, can have effect only upon elections many months away, but in the Senate itself, where the battle is now going on, and where alone can either a sound-currency system make its way into law, or the protective system be broken up or at least exposed to public execration. Hitherto, since the present Congress convened, the difficulty of those who, like ourselves, have desired to support the ideas of the Indianapolis convention, has been that there have been no public men in Congress standing by them. An opposition, to be effective, must not merely declare its principles; it must fight for them, compel their debate, enlist popular support. No better opportunity could possibly be afforded than by the pending tariff. On the showing of its own advocates the tariff is not needed; it is imperilling all business, and arousing the most violent opposition among the manufacturers and exporters. Yet in the House nobody appeared to lead the Democrats but a semi-Populist whose most important political act, to judge by the amount of space devoted to it in the press, was his refusal to wear a dress-coat at the White House, and who openly advised his followers to let the tariff go through, because it would bring them into power again. We doubt if, in the long history of the struggle for freedom of trade, such a thing was ever heard before. It must be remembered that those who attack protection, can never acquiesce in a protective tariff without deserting those whom they have promised to defend from injustice. That a man undertaking to lead revenue reformers should welcome a protective tariff because it was so bad, would be laughable were it not shocking. As Mr. Shepard said on Saturday, the most serious thing we have to contend with is "the profound contempt with which official and political life has come to regard public sentiment."

There are signs, and this Reform Club dinner is one, that in the Senate this paralysis will disappear, and that some men will show the country the difference between a mob and a party. Senator Caffery's speech, one of the best made at the dinner, was that of a man who thoroughly understood the situation, and had no sympathy with a do-nothing policy. What he said about the possibility of dividing the Republicans was both true and important: "There are some Republicans who do not believe in erecting the 'Chinese wall' so high as both to keep out foreign imports and to keep in domestic manufactures. These forces ought to, and may, unite with Gold Democrats for the weal of a common country, whose prosperity lies so close to their hearts." This foreshadows, no doubt, the plan of bringing forward a genuine revenue bill, and offering it as a substitute for the Dingley measure. "You say you want $50,000,000 or $60,000,000 revenue, and offer us a measure which will upset half the established business of the country, that you may pay your political debts. We offer you a revenue measure with taxes laid on half-a-dozen articles. Everybody knows that it is feasible. What have you got to say?" Can any one doubt that opposition of this sort would win support both in and outside Congress?

Secretary Carlisle, in his speech, gave the new project for international bimetallism a solid and settling blow. What he said was that the plan for a new conference had no chance of succeeding, and that it would be a bad thing if it did succeed. It was an attempt to make two things equal to each other by law when they were not equal in fact; and this, he said, could not be done by any group of nations, however strong financially, or however numerous. This belief has not, so far as we have observed, been avowed in any political speech before. It has been the private possession of doctrinaires in this country. There has been a universal consensus among politicians that in order to make 50 cents equal to a dollar it was only necessary to get England, France, and Germany to unite with us in calling them equal. Mr. Carlisle has now repudiated that notion in vigorous terms.

THE TREASURY ORDER.

THE debate in the Senate on the Treasury order instructing collectors to delay "liquidations" of goods imported after April 1 was a curiosity in its way. We do not mean that it brought forward any new arguments, for what was said on both sides had been said already outside the Senate; but because it was, we believe, the first recorded debate of its kind in the history of the world—the first debate on the question of the legality of an order issued by the Executive of a free government, managed under representative forms, designed to fasten a lien upon all goods entering the country, and taxed under an existing tariff, for the purpose of making them subject to an additional tax to any amount that the Legislature may at any future time impose. It cannot too often be repeated that this is what the retroactive scheme means. People are confused about it, because they think that the scheme does nothing but make the Dingley duties, so called, retroactive. This is a total mistake. There are no Dingley duties. The Dingley bill is of no more force and effect in the United States until it becomes a law than any one of the two thousand other bills introduced into Congress and not yet passed. The scheme is based on the proposition that Congress may at any future time levy additional duties on goods which have come into the country and been once taxed already in accordance with existing law.

The brand now fastened upon imported goods by the red ink of the Treasury, and by retention of the samples for identification, cannot be obliterated. The present Dingley bill may never pass; the regular session of Congress may begin next December with a new Dingley bill with a new retroactive clause, and that bill may in its turn be defeated; or the present clause may be struck out by the Senate, and the bill passed without it. No matter what is done, the operations under the Treasury order will remain for ever as notice to the world of a claim of the right to increase the taxes on goods already taxed, when and to what extent Congress pleases. For there is no limit of any sort, either in time or in amount of tax. The second tax may be laid on two months or two years hence; the retroactive duty may be prohibitive, though the article is now absolutely free. In the case of such goods, of course, the execution of the scheme would be tantamount to confiscation.

That such a scheme should not only be

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broached, but be actually put, so far as possible, into operation, is an entirely new thing. France and Germany have developed elaborate protective systems, but they never thought of it. It never occurred to the English protectionists under Pitt or Peel, and, so far as we know, nobody in Asia, Africa, or what the politicians call "the isles of the sea" ever dreamed of it. It is the contribution of Dingley and Grosvenor to the science of taxation, and therefore, as we say, a debate on it is a memorable and important event.

The first thing to be noticed about the debate is that Mr. Morrill, who conducted it on the Republican side, did not bring forward a scintilla of proof that the scheme was legal. But he did offer one contribution of real value to the discussion. He said that the only thing he regretted about the Dingley bill was that it was not "sufficiently retroactive," because it did not go back to 1894, and "cover not only this tariff bill, but the law which has been in operation for the last three years"; that is, that it did not threaten retroactive duties on articles imported three years ago. He did not fail, of course, to suggest that the retroactive clause would be struck out of the bill by the Senate, but as a mere matter of favor; notice that the Government adheres to the principle of retroactive duties has been given through the Treasury order. So far as the executive department of the Government can go, it has adopted the principle, and whether the Senate strikes out the House clause does not affect this fact at all. Indeed, Mr. Gage may well contend, when asked how he can issue an illegal order, that there is nothing illegal in it if the principle of retroactive duties is sound. Not only this, but he might go further, and contend that, if sound, there ought to be such an order permanently in force. A country which adopts the retroactive principle should in fairness notify all the world of it, and keep them notified. Viewed in this light the Treasury order is nothing more than an act of kindness to the importer, for it says in effect: "The authorities who have just passed a tariff through the House maintain that hereafter any goods passing through the custom-house may be taxed additionally, wherever they may be found; it is only fair to let you know in advance that importing is a dangerous business. All attempts to pay duties hereafter will be 'tentative,' and if you ask me how much you will finally have to pay, all I can say is that I don't know." To make the scheme complete, there might be a permanent order, and a permanent retroactive statute, under which a board, or perhaps the President, should levy retroactive taxes from time to time on previous imports at such figures as they might deem advisable.

We have little doubt that if the protectionists had a tremendous majority in the Senate, as they have in the House, the temper of legislation is such that they would jam through the retroactive clause. Importers are paying little attention to it, because its very monstrosity prevents the possibility of its getting through an evenly divided Senate. But it is the ripe fruit of protection, and when we hear an old man like Mr. Morrill, very near his last breath, sighing that he cannot make the country pluck and eat it, we see in a curious way how the long practice of protection distorts the mind and blunts the conscience.

THE CIVIL-SERVICE DECISION.

THE facts in the civil-service case just decided by the New York Court of Appeals were the following: In 1895 eleven appointments were made to various positions in the Brooklyn civil service without competitive examination. At the time of their appointment, the new Constitution, requiring that appointments and promotions in the civil service of the State, or civil divisions of it including cities and villages, shall be made "according to merit and fitness, to be ascertained, so far as practicable, by examinations, which, so far as practicable, shall be competitive; . . . laws shall be made to provide for the enforcement of this section" (Const., N. Y., art. 5, s. 9), had gone into effect. The civil-service system established by statute at the time of the adoption of this amendment in the State and in the cities was based on the principle (the same as that of the federal service) that all offices were to be classified as competitive or non-competitive, and that, within the limits of the classified service, all heads of departments must make appointments from those certified as having passed the competitive examinations established by the various civil-service boards. In cities, the mayors were to classify. "Confidential" positions were excluded from competition on the ground that it was in the nature of things impossible to subject candidates for them to a competitive test, and in Brooklyn Mr. Seth Low when mayor had made the class known as Schedule A a non-competitive class. The mayors who succeeded him, Messrs. Schieren and Wurster, the present incumbent, made some changes, the result of which was that the eleven appointments involved in the case came under this head. The present action was brought by taxpayers of Brooklyn on the ground that the eleven appointees were illegally appointed without competitive examination, whereas such an examination would have been "practicable," and was therefore required by the Constitution and the statute. An injunction was asked to restrain the payment of salaries.

The Court of Appeals holds that the whole civil-service system—the appointment of the examiners, the method of examination, and the determination of qualifications of the applicants—is left entirely to the Legislature. "As to the machinery necessary for the conducting of a competitive examination, its execution to that extent is dependent upon the statute." The court says, apparently to make all this plain, that if an executive officer should now undertake to hold examinations on his own account it would "nullify the civil-service law," leaving it to be inferred that by a new statute precisely this system might be introduced.

The court also holds that the only question before it is whether the Brooklyn classification is legal, and this question turns wholly on whether it was "practicable" to have applied the competitive system to the eleven appointees. Under these circumstances it might have been supposed that the court would then proceed to inquire into the duties of the eleven appointees, and to decide in each case whether a competitive examination would have been practicable. But, while laying it down as a general rule that where the duties of the position are not merely clerical, but "such as especially devolved upon the head of the office, which, by reason of his numerous duties, he was compelled to delegate to others, the performance of which required skill, judgment, trust, and confidence, and involved the responsibility of the officers of the municipality," the position must be treated as confidential, and consequently non-competitive, the court has carefully avoided determining "the respective claims of the eleven appointees." On the contrary, the court says in substance: The mayor has determined this question, and we shall not review his action. It must be assumed, until the contrary appears, that when he says a position is confidential and that it is not practicable to bring it within the competitive class, his classification is correct. If the mayor acts improperly, he may be compelled by direct proceedings, as by mandamus, and perhaps certiorari, to classify properly. In all this the court reversed the decision below, which was that it was "practicable" to apply a competitive examination, and that therefore the appointments were wholly illegal.

The upshot of the decision is, in the first place, that the courts cannot any longer be relied upon to enforce the constitutional amendment for us. The view taken by all the best judges of both political parties in the courts below and in the Court of Appeals itself has been brushed aside by a party majority of one, and we are told that hereafter the classification of offices as competitive or non-competitive made by mayors or governors is final, unless we can show at the end of a litigation that they are wrong; in which case the classification, and probably the litigation, will begin over again. This is a very different thing from a summary process to prevent an officer wrongly appointed without competition from acting.

In the second place, the court has gone

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out of its way to declare that the Legislature has complete control of the one vital matter, the machinery of the examinations. A competitive civil service rests entirely on the system by which the appointment is vested in the mayor, Governor, or head of department, while the examinations are conducted by persons not controlled by him. All other machinery is a sham. To do away with this system and introduce other machinery—a pass system, or a hocus-pocus of competition under the control of the person who appoints—is the object of the present attack by the enemies of the system. The decision of the Court of Appeals will greatly raise their hopes, for it says, in words that might almost have been dictated by the Governor, the "starch" in "civil service" is in the statute, not in the Constitution; take it out of that, and you can do what you like.

In achieving this triumph, the enemies of civil-service reform have had to get an apparently partisan construction of the Constitution, unsupported by the weight of judicial authority. Judges Haight, Bartlett, Martin, and Vann, all Republicans, have overruled Judges Gray, Andrews, and O'Brien, and all the Judges of the Appellate Division, as well as the trial Judge, on a point so simple that a child can understand it, and which may be thus stated: When the Constitution says that no man shall be appointed to office except by competition, if competition is "practicable," the courts, and not the Legislature, or the Governor, or the mayors, are to decide whether it is practicable, in view of the duties which the officer has to perform. No doubt the Judges who held this would also hold that the competition must be genuine, and not a sham. Now the enemies of the reform have got a construction which enables mayors and Legislature and Governor to make a sham of the whole thing. The people of this State have too much at stake in the matter to permit them to let it rest here.

A NEW EXPERIMENT IN SOCIALISM.

A RECENT number of the *Réforme Sociale* contains an instructive and entertaining account of an experiment in coöperation made by Belgian socialists. This enterprise is carried on at Ghent under the title *Vooruit* (forward), and is described by its leader, Edward Anseele, as "a citadel, established by the Socialists, whence they bombard the bourgeois class with bread and butter and potatoes." The plan of the enterprise was first conceived by two members of the "International," who had found it desirable to absent themselves for a time from their own country, and who had learned the importance of maintaining the socialistic propaganda by more practical agencies than debating clubs. They saw many coöperative societies in existence among workmen, and the idea occurred to them that if they could capture some of these, the dissemination of socialistic theories might be greatly facilitated. After two or three failures they finally succeeded, not, indeed, in capturing a coöperative bakery, but in splitting its membership, and, with a seceding element numbering 150, they began operations as a professedly socialistic business concern.

As a business enterprise the society has achieved great success. M. Anseele is evidently a man of much capacity, and he has adopted precisely the methods which have been developed in this country by the "department stores," together with some of those attributed to our industrial monopolies. Instead of advertising in hostile sheets, he has his own daily socialistic newspaper. He maintains a café, on whose walls appears the appropriate motto, "The stomach of the laboring man is the savings bank of society." A pharmacy has been established, and followed by two others. More recent additions are a shoe-shop, a coal-yard, and, finally, a grand store on the department plan, adorned with medallions of Marx, Fourier, and Owen. For a sign there is inscribed on the front of this building, "The union of the workingmen is the peace of the world," and above it floats the red flag. A still later addition is a large hall for festive purposes. Meanwhile the membership has grown within the last ten years from 2,342 to 5,911. Nor has the original business languished, the number of loaves of bread baked having increased from 1,500,000 to 4,500,000. The total of receipts is now nearly 2,000,000 francs yearly, and, after applying over 18 per cent. in dividends to members, a surplus of about 4 per cent. is carried forward.

As a socialistic enterprise, however, it cannot be said that this society is successful. It is simply a coöperative department store and manufactory, with some ornamental additions. It violates the fundamental principle of socialism by adopting the present wages system in paying its employees. They do not share in the profits unless they become members—which, indeed, they seem to be under some compulsion to do. It violates the principle of the "truck" acts, by requiring its workmen to buy their bread at its bakery, and it exacts more than eight hours' work a day in several of its departments. It pays good wages, but this is partly due to the fact that payment by the piece is to some extent adopted. Severe penalties for bad workmanship are also imposed. So far as the workmen are concerned, therefore, they seem to be as much victims of the capitalistic régime as if their employers did not belong to the Socialistic party.

The despotic tendencies of socialism, however, are very well illustrated in the case of the members of this society. M. Anseele is practically an autocrat. There is a board of five directors elected for five years, one retiring annually, which is nominally supreme, but really dominated by the manager. Any workman sound in the faith of socialism may become a member by paying a small fee. When he becomes a member he is obliged to buy every week a certain number of bread-tickets, paying for them in cash, at the market price, and receiving a daily supply of bread. There is a dividend or rebate, not paid in cash, but in "store orders." So on other purchases a discount is allowed, but it is always to be "taken out in trade." There is an obligatory subscription to the fund for providing medical assistance, which entitles the subscriber to such aid, as well as to a certain number of loaves of bread, in case of illness. There seems to be no way of withdrawing from the enterprise except by abandoning what has been invested in it, and all profits made in it must be reinvested. Such an enterprise can hardly fail to succeed under competent management, or to collapse if badly administered. Hitherto the management has been able, and the operating expenses have been low. M. Anseele is contented with power, and does not demand the pecuniary value of his services.

The great increase of membership, however, is largely due to the fact that the society is really a branch of the Socialistic party in Ghent. To belong to it is an evidence of fidelity to the party; to keep out of it indicates lukewarmness, if not treachery. M. Anseele has recently become active in political life, and it is not improbable that the business of *Vooruit* will suffer for it. We are struggling in this country to make municipal administration a business matter; the Socialists of Ghent are introducing partisanship into baking bread and selling groceries. They are treading a well-worn path, and if they proceed they will add another lesson to those already furnished by experience concerning the wisdom of not conducting business affairs under the influence of party spirit.

THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY'S MEETING.

BALTIMORE, April 24, 1897.

FOR this, its one hundred and eighth meeting, the Society is the guest of the Johns Hopkins University. The President of the University, Mr. Gilman, is also our presiding officer, the worthy successor, by virtue of long and varied service, of John Pickering (our founder), of Edward Robinson, Salisbury, Woolsey, Hadley, S. Wells Williams, and Whitney—surely a line of notable incumbents. For our tourneys—grammatical, antiquarian, historical, literary, text-critical, and what not—the home team consisted of Profs. Bloomfield, Haupt, and Bright, led on by Prof. Gildersleeve, whose name has stood upon our lists for forty years save one, and next to that of Mr. Gilman, in alphabetic and other harmony, as is most meet. The University of Pennsylvania sent us Prof. Jastrow. From Columbia came Gottheil and Jackson. Yale was represented by Oertel and Sanders in person; while Hopkins, not yet returned from India, sent us papers. Toy and Lanman came from Harvard; Price from Chicago; Moore from Andover. Of especial interest was the part taken by the Catholic University of America, which was most ably represented by the Rev. Prof. Hyvernat of Washington. And it is highly significant that the museums were not without their delegates—Adler of the United States National, and Arnold of the Metropolitan. The unity of purpose of museum, public library, and of university is fast coming to practical recognition.

The meeting began on Thursday and continued till to day; but on Wednesday evening, by way of preparative, the committee appointed to promote the Historical Study of Religions held its session, and took steps for organizing within the Oriental Society a section for the Study of Religions. This organization was effected in due course on Friday, with Prof. Jastrow as Secretary. In like manner a Classical Section existed from 1849–91 under Beck, Hadley, and Goodwin, until the flourishing Philological Association caused it to lapse into happy desuetude. A like result is to be hoped for in case of the Religions Section. In this connection it may be an-

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nounced that the services of Canon Cheyne of Oxford have been secured for 1897–98, for the third series of American lectures on the History of Religions (the first was the course upon Buddhism given by Rhys Davids of London), and that Prof. Budde of Strassburg is to give the series of the winter of 1898–99. These discourses are held in the principal cities of the Atlantic seaboard.

The business session was set for Friday morning, and began with the presentation of correspondence, by Prof. Lanman. From this, one or two items may be mentioned. Dr. Sergius Oldenburg of St. Petersburg writes that Petrofsky, the Russian Consul-General in Kashgar, has brought back two birch-bark manuscripts in Kharoshthi characters, by far the oldest Indian manuscripts known. Oldenburg believes that they are to be referred to the first century before or after Christ. He is going to publish complete facsimiles of both manuscripts, and hopes to have them ready for the International Congress at Paris next autumn. He has also begun a Buddhistic series of publications, which promises to be of great value. Among the works undertaken is the 'Abhidharma Kosha Vyakhya,' whose importance has been recognized since the days of Eugene Burnouf. Dr. Stein writes from his camp, Mohand Marg, in the Himalayas of Kashmir. He had been commissioned by the Kashmir Durbar to translate into English the history of Kashmir, which had been edited by him in Sanskrit. He is the hard-worked principal of the Government Oriental College at Lahore, and says: "In order to work undisturbed, I came straight up to this plateau, some 11,000 feet above the sea, where I have not seen a white face for the last three months. In this delightful Alpine solitude I could work all day long without feeling tired; and thus had two days ago the satisfaction of getting to the end of my task." The history is to be published by Constable & Co. in London.

The Society has sustained serious losses by death during the year, but none that will be more directly and keenly felt than that of Prof. Isaac H. Hall of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He was a man of remarkable attainments in Greek, especially New Testament Greek, in Syriac, and in the subject of Cypriote inscriptions and antiquities. His capacity for work, his conscientiousness and accuracy, were marvellous. The late Prof. Josiah D. Whitney, the eminent geologist of Harvard, had been a constant and sympathizing helper of the Society since 1857. Dr. Oliver Crane, who died last winter, was formerly a missionary at Aintab and Aleppo. In three separate and quite recent instances, the widow or the sister of a deceased member has expressed the wish to continue that member's subscriptions. The coincidence is curious and pleasantly significant.

The fact of most importance in the business chronicles of the Society is doubtless the new departure in the publication of the *Journal*, which was ordered by the directors a year ago. Since then it has been issued promptly as a periodical, in well-bound volumes of about two hundred pages each, under the editorship of Profs. Lanman and Moore. The report of the treasurer, Mr. Warren of Cambridge, showed that our expenditures are now very considerably beyond our income. To the end, however, that the new experiment might be fairly tried, the directors ordered that no change in the manner of issue be made for the coming year. Nearly forty promising new members were added to our list. Prof. Haupt was authorized to attempt to make better publishing arrangements for the *Journal* in Europe, and several of our administrative officers are to undertake to raise a moderate publication fund, and are sanguine in their hope of success. No changes of note were made in the board of officers, except that President Harper of the University of Chicago and Prof. Francis Brown of Union Theological Seminary were elected to fill a couple of vacancies on the board of directors. The name of Prof. Lanman, at his request, was dropped from the board of editors, thus leaving Prof. Moore of Andover to carry on alone the work of that board.

In accordance with a vote of the Society, a memorial was prepared to be presented to the finance committee of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House, urging that the classifications and duties which concern books in foreign languages and works of art be permitted to remain unchanged as they are in the present tariff law.

Over fifty papers were presented, and they were of surprising variety and interest. Perhaps the one fact which is most full of hope and encouragement for the future of the Society is this, that the young men, the pupils of those who are now bearing the burden and heat of the day, are coming forward with real and valuable contributions to knowledge. If the purpose of the University is not to teach facts, but rather to train men *to do*, then certainly here is evidence that that purpose is being measurably attained. Among the papers of the older men, criticism of the Bible held an important place. I wish that the flippant critics of the results of the "higher criticism" could see the way in which those results are obtained, the reverent attitude of mind, the absolute fairness of judgment and temper with which truth is sought, without preconceived opinion. Prof. Hyvernat's discourse on the Coptic versions of the Bible made it plain that we may associate light with Egypt, and not darkness only. Mr. Grimm presented the results of a most interesting study of a class of tags or additions to the Psalms, which occur especially in Psalms whose ending originally contained some expression of bad omen. A striking example of this is seen in the twenty-second verse of the thirty-fourth Psalm. Prof. Haupt naturally had a number of chips from his busy workshop, where the publication of the Polychrome Bible is now in progress. Such was his essay upon the amplificative plural in Hebrew, wherein he established a principle by which many familiar passages may be made to yield far better sense. His colleague, Prof. Bloomfield, presented an essay upon the 'Gopatha Brahmana,' which evidently grew out of his studies upon the literature of the 'Atharva Veda.' His stately volume containing translations from that Veda, and forming a part of Max Müller's 'Sacred Books of the East,' was laid before the Society by President Gilman. Dr. Reisner of Harvard is now at work publishing a second volume of the Assyrian inscriptions of the Museum at Berlin, under a commission of the authorities of that Museum. As an incidental result of these labors, he presented a paper upon the old Babylonian system of weights and measures, the preliminary publication of which, by the Berlin Academy, has already elicited most favorable comment from the highest authorities. Prof. Hopkins sends us a paper to prove that the bulk of the Hymns of the 'Rig-Veda' originated in the district that lies south of Amballa. His arguments are based upon travel and observation and upon the interpretation of the ancient books.

Prof. Jackson presented interesting notes upon play within play (as in "Hamlet") in the Sanskrit drama, and an elaborate essay on the Archangels in Zoroastrianism. Prof. Oertel brought out some results of his studies in the Brahmana literature, to which he has long been devoted. Prof. Bloomfield's pupil, Mr. Ness, gave orally a creditable contribution to the exegesis of the Vedas; and Mr. Lovejoy, a pupil of Prof. Lanman, sent on an able discussion of several fundamental points in Buddhist philosophy which have recently engaged the attention of leading Buddhist scholars, especially Mr. Warren of Cambridge and M. Senart of the French Academy.

The value of organization appeared in the action of the Society in the matter of a proposed catalogue of Egyptian papyri and monuments in this country, undertaken, at the instance of the Department of State, on behalf of the Egyptian Government; and again, also, in Prof. Gottheil's report of substantial progress in the work of cataloguing the Oriental manuscripts in America. Most of the papers were of course too technical for mention here; a notable exception was Prof. Henry Preserved Smith's argument to show that Mohammed's impulse was received from Christian rather than from Jewish sources. And a paper on the etymology of Baal-bek suggested the jocose query as to light on the origin of Bal-timore. Your readers will at all events appreciate a new etymology of Boston which has just been propounded by a Buddhist priest, newly arrived from Ceylon to convert us. *Bo* is the Ceylonese for *Bodhi*, and appears in the familiar combination *Bo-tree*, the tree under which The Enlightened One (*Buddha*) attained Enlightenment (*Bodhi*); and *ston* is nothing more than *stan*, familiar to us in many Oriental names, Hindustan, Afghan-i-stan, Land of the Hindus, the Afghans, and so on. *Bo-ston* is therefore literally 'The Land of Enlightenment.'

The social aspects of the meeting were simple, as was fitting, and so altogether delightful. It is hoped that the next meeting may be held at the University of Chicago in Easter week, 1898.

A VISIT TO THE CONVENT OF METEORA IN THESSALY.

NORWICH, CONN., April 17, 1897.

ON Wednesday, August 30, 1871, I made arrangements to leave Larissa, in Thessaly, for a visit to the convents of Meteora, those most inaccessible of all monastic retreats in the world. I hired an old carriage, one of the few in Larissa, to take me to Triccala. We set off at five P. M. As we proceeded westward, the mountains, Ossa and Olympus, on the eastern border of the great Thessalian plain, loomed up in constantly more impressive grandeur, and rose, purple and grand, in the last rays of the sun. All through the night we traversed the Pelasgian plain, and arrived before daylight at Triccala, anciently known as Tricca, and revered as one of the oldest shrines of Æsculapius.

The modern Thessalians are a somewhat inferior race, who were described to me by a rich Greek of Larissa as κτηνώδεις ἄνθρωποι, "beastly fellows." Their degradation is due in part to their patriotism. They joined heartily in the national struggle for independence, which for them, since they were excluded from the modern Greek kingdom, bore no fruit, and they have taken part in the numerous insurrections which have been

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stirred up since the Greek Revolution, and have had Thessaly as their theatre. These successive outbreaks, insufficiently supported, have been easily stamped out, and the wretched patriots who supported them have been severely punished. The result has been that the more enterprising Greeks have emigrated, and that those who remain are an abject, spiritless race. The population of Thessaly, about 500,000, is almost solidly Greek, about 10 per cent. only being Mohammedan. At the time of my visit, the landholders were generally Turks, and the Christian landholders found it necessary to pay various annoying and burdensome tributes to secure the privilege of cultivating their lands in peace. Now, Thessaly, as far as the River Peneius, but not including Mount Olympus, is Greek territory.

I visited the Turkish governor, who, as I was about to enter the defiles of Mount Pindus, furnished me with a zaptieh, or mounted policeman. I also called on the Greek archbishop, who gave me a letter to the abbot of the convents. I myself rode on horseback. Our road ascended gradually and lay in the direction due north, passing many beautiful springs which gushed forth abundantly from the ground on either side. We soon arrived at Kalabaka, and beheld the first of the monasteries, perched on a high rock to the right. As we drew nearer to these curious rocks, I observed more carefully their formation. They are a conglomerate, and look as if they had bubbled out of the earth, stiffening as they rose. The separate pinnacles, which number some twenty in all, were each once the seat of a monastery, or, at least, of a monastic cell. These pinnacles or needles rise from a bed of rock of similar formation with themselves, both being bluish in color, extremely hard, and holding many small stones imbedded in their substance. The monasteries crowning these natural columns (like so many St. Simeon Stylites on their pillars) are called collectively τὰ Μετέωρα, "raised aloft," and no name could be more appropriate.

The chief monastery, called properly the Convent of the Transfiguration (τῆς Μεταμορφώσεως), receives also the name τὰ Μετέωρα, Convent of Meteora. We approached the base of the rock-column on which it stands, I in advance of my zaptieh, whose horse had the misfortune to catch his hoof in one of the holes of the hard conglomerate over which we were travelling. When the intelligent creature found that the hoof was held fast, he stood perfectly still until his master succeeded in releasing it. I saw a couple of ropes dangling in air, a hundred feet from the earth. I called, and, when heads appeared above, I produced and held up my letter of introduction, whereupon the smaller cord, used for hauling up packages, was lowered and the letter was thus sent up. The abbot was away, and the three monks could none of them read the letter, but they concluded, from the seal and from the fact that the stranger was attended by a zaptieh, that he was a person of importance, and presently they let down the larger rope with a monk, enclosed in a net, at its lower end. As soon as he had been extricated from the net, he spread it flat upon the rock and bade me sit down, cross-legged, upon it. Then he gathered the outside edges carefully together, putting each mesh around the border over the great hook, and shouted to those above to heave away at the windlass.

I felt a curious sensation of being squeezed together, and then rose gradually in the air, whirling around from the twist of the cable, as I ascended. The height was about two hundred feet. Arrived at the top, one of the monks, who worked the windlass, gave me a push, and, as I came back on the return-swing, well within his reach, he dragged me in, and —the other letting go the windlass—I was deposited on the floor of the monastery. Then I was released from the net and began to look about me. At first, I was left much to myself, for the three brothers at the monastery were ignorant in the extreme, and could do little more for me than to send at once a man with a horse to bring back the abbot, who had gone a distance of three or four hours away, on business for the monastery.

I went first to the church, a structure dating, perhaps, from the thirteenth century, of the most regular Byzantine type. Finally, I went out upon the beautiful grassy level which, terminated on every side by the perpendicular rock-walls, surrounds the monastery. The entire elevation was not less than two thousand feet above the great Thessalian plain which I had been traversing from Larissa. This surface was dotted over with delicate blue flowers, and the view in every direction, upon the mighty range of Pindus behind, and over the broad plain in front, was beautiful in the afternoon light. When evening fell and I returned to the convent, the monks gave me a frugal supper, and arranged my bed in a spacious room where many a guest had been entertained before—among others, John Catacouzenos, Emperor of Constantinople, who came to this convent, was hauled up in a basket, and ended his days here as a monk. When I awoke the next morning, the pleasant tones of a cultured voice fell on my ear, and I found that the abbot had arrived. His story was that he was a native of Thessaly, but had lived for fifteen years at Constantinople as a monk attached to the Patriarchate, or palace of the Patriarch. He had gained the confidence of Gregory, the œcumenical Patriarch, who had sent him to Meteora, trusting to his ability to disentangle the monasteries from the debt which burdened them.

Speaking more particularly of these debts, he described the methods of the Christian money-lenders. A banker of Larissa, with whom I myself had become pretty well acquainted, had lent the convents money, one hundred and thirty Turkish pounds, at thirty pounds yearly interest, payable in quarterly instalments, *i. e.*, at a trifle less than 25 per cent. To clear off such claims as these, the income of all the farms owned by the monasteries, save one, had been pledged for five years, and upon that one farm the abbot and his associates were living with the greatest possible economy. But, the five years expired, the monastery would enter again upon the control of its property, and, it was expected, in another five years would be out of debt.

As we continued our conversation, the abbot spoke of the loneliness of the place—how, not long after he arrived, he had fallen sick simply from solitude. He left me by the open window, and there I continued sitting, breathing in the soft, cool morning air, watching the mists rising from the great Thessalian plain, enjoying the astonishing calm. Soon he returned, and then he conducted me about, showing me the capacious vaults for storage, the enormous earthen jars for oil, the great wine-butts, the huge cisterns, all witnessing to the scale on which the convent had once been carried on. As a memorial of comparatively recent outrage, he showed me a bullet-hole in the floor, which witnessed to the murder of an abbot during the Greek Revolution. Among the interesting things which it does not seem worth while to describe were the vestments and the drinking-cups which had been used by the Emperor, John Catacouzenos, while a monk in the convent. There was a title-deed of property, devised by one of the Palæologi (Emperors), with the signature in bold, large letters, Παλαιολόγος, as distinct as if written today. There were editions of the Greek Fathers and of the Greek classics, with a slight sprinkling of other books.

I do not think it necessary to describe my visit to a second of these curious monasteries, that of Barlaam, and I will only note, in closing, the one overwhelming impression which I have carried away from these singular retreats, and never lost. This is the strange, unearthly stillness of these almost inaccessible rock-retreats. There is no note of bird there, no rustling of falling leaf, no trickling of water. The quiet is like that of death; of a kind, according to the temperament of the man, to calm him or to drive him into insanity.

R. P. K.

THE SPADE BEFORE THE SWORD.

ATHENS, April, 1897.

GREECE is no longer the land of dead issues. For some time past it has been so much alive as to attract the attention of the world; but the questions that have attracted mankind are questions of the living present, not those of a far-distant past. The human interest of real living issues appeals to the human heart of the busy workaday world. And yet there is a remnant which, while feeling keenly the momentous nature of the living issues, is still large enough of soul to be interested in the humanity of the past. It is to such that these lines are addressed.

In spite of the fact that recent political events in Greece have been unfavorable to archæological pursuits, yet there was a time this winter when excavations were being carried on at five different places in Athens. The British School excavated for the gymnasium called the Cynosarges on the left bank of the Ilissus, in the neighborhood of the road to Sunium. The excavations were undertaken at this point at the suggestion of Dörpfeld, the topographical ferret. Leaving out of consideration the inevitable graves, the excavations brought to light the scanty remains of a Greek and of a Roman building. In view of the purpose for which the excavations were undertaken, it was quite natural that the one should be named the Cynosarges and the other the Gymnasium of Hadrian, but it is questionable whether these theses can be successfully maintained.

The excavations conducted by the Greek Archæological Society on the northwestern and northern slopes of the Acropolis have been fruitful of results. The excavations were begun in the depression or lower ground between the Areopagus and the Acropolis, where the foundations of a large Byzantine church were discovered. When the excavations reached the so-called grotto of Pan, inscriptions were found on marble plaques that were intended for insertion in the face of the rock. These inscriptions make it clear that this is the grotto of Apollo, and not that of Pan, as has been believed universally up to this time. Certain passages in the "Ion" of Euripides (283 ff. 936) have received needed and satisfactory elucidation by this discovery. East of this grotto of Apollo were found two other

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caves, or rather *one* labyrinth-like cave, which is regarded as the cave of Pan, because it is in every way suited for the clandestine meeting of Apollo and Creousa, a meeting so momentous for the yet unborn Ionic race. It may be noted that Apollo and Pan were associated in a similar manner at Lykosoura also. East of these caves, steps leading up to the wall of the Acropolis were discovered; they are the external continuation of the steps found in 1885 inside the walls of the Acropolis. These are the steps by which the Arrephori descended by night during the celebration of the Panathenaic festival, and they are likewise the steps by which the Persians entered the Acropolis. These excavations have but fairly begun, and great discoveries are still to be looked for. The ground occupied by the houses of the Anaphiote squatters on the northern slopes of the Acropolis will be bought by the Archæological Society, although of course it belongs already to the Government. The squatters, eighty families in all, have resisted successfully for twenty years all efforts of the Government to dispossess them, so that the Society is forced to purchase the houses. They will be demolished in time in order that excavations can be made down to the natural rock. The excavated dirt will be replaced along the entire northern slope wherever no ancient buildings are found.

The German School has made excavations at the western foot of the Areopagus in the hope of discovering the theatre of Agrippa, the temple of Ares, and the orchestra in which once stood the statues of Harmodius and Aristogeiton, all of which, according to Pausanias, lay between the Greek Agora (as contradistinguished from the Roman Agora) and the Enneakrounos. Now the Greek Agora lay to the east of the so-called Theseion; Dörpfeld thinks, as is well known, that the Enneakrounos has been definitely located, so that the discovery of the intermediate buildings can be only a question of time and digging. The excavations for this winter were confined to trial trenches, and were without result so far as the topographical questions were concerned.

Excavations in the ancient cemetery near the Dipylon prove that the hillock which lies to the south of the Hagia Trias is an artificial mound, the different layers being quite evident. The original graves, five in number, lie upon the hard pan at the bottom of the tumulus, and show distinct traces of fire-burial. As the tumulus grew, other (unincinerated) bodies were buried in it, so that a vertical section reveals graves at varying depths. The five graves are the oldest in the ancient cemetery at this place, and go back to the beginning of the fifth century; the other graves in the tumulus belong to the fourth century. Vases of various kinds and gold ornaments were found in the upper graves of the tumulus, only a portion of which has been excavated as yet; but the excavations will be continued. The underground aqueduct that carries off the water of the Eridanos will be cut by these excavations, and this may give a pretext for endeavoring to discover accurately the sources of this abundant water.

Excavations conducted in the outer Ceramicus northwest of the Dipylon have led to the discovery of the ancient road from the Dipylon to the Academy, the road of public tombs and of the torch-race contests from the altar of Eros in the Academy to the altar of Anteros in the inner Ceramicus. Only a small portion of the road has been uncovered; it is paved and is about eleven metres wide, as Livy says, *ut pediti equitique hostium liberum spatium præberet*. The line of the road being thus fixed, we may yet live to see the plan of the tombs of Pericles, Thrasybulus, and of the many Athenians who were accorded a sumptuous burial because of their *andragathy*, in that they had died for their country. A sanctuary of Artemis may also be looked for, as well as a statue of Dionysus Eleuthereus and xoana of Ariste and Calliste. These excavations have produced inscriptions that add two more names to the list of archons of the third century.

A sixth excavation was that for the foundation of a large house on Sophocles Street, not far from the National Bank. A portion of the city walls appeared at a depth of about twelve feet.

The archæological year was opened by a discovery made by Mr. Smith, Director of the British School at Athens. While passing through Patras on his way to Athens, Mr. Smith's attention was called to a marble statue which had been found but a short time previously. A mere glance served to reveal the astonishing fact that the statue was another replica of the Parthenos of Phidias—a replica, too, which in many respects is the best extant.

M. Dragoumes accidentally discovered on Salamis the tumulus or polyandrion of the Corinthians who fell in the battle of Salamis. The discovery was made by means of an inscription in the old Corinthian alphabet and the Doric dialect. The greater part of the inscription has been worn away, but fortunately the most of the first line is preserved almost intact, and this line presents us with the exact and unatticized text of a part of the celebrated epigram which Simonides of Ceos composed for the tomb of the Corinthian dead. Corinthian Epsilon, Koppa, San, and the old forms of all the letters occur, though Vau is absent. The discovery is of intense interest for the philologist, the archæologist, and the historian. The old letters recall vividly the pretensions of the Corinthians after the battle, and their squabbles with Themistocles in the council of war before the battle. It is hoped that the relative isolation of the polyandrion may have spared it from many consecutive plunderings, and that excavations may reveal other things equal in interest with the discovery of the epigram of Simonides and of the tumulus itself.

Some years ago three "ostraka" were discovered (C. I. A. iv. 2 569-71), one of which was cast against Megacles, the uncle of Pericles and grandfather of Alcibiades, and the other two against Xanthippus, the father of Pericles. The lately discovered work of Aristotle tells us that these were the first Athenians to be ostracized. It was surprising that samples of precisely the very oldest ostraka should have been found, and they were of especial interest also because they showed us how that any piece of broken pottery was used for the purpose. The name *Scherbengericht* has been fully justified both by these three ostraka, and also by a fourth which was cast against Themistocles at the time when Aristeides was banished. This ostrakon was found during the recent German excavations at the western foot of the Areopagus. It is apparently a fragment from the rim of a vase. This vote against Themistocles was hastily scratched in the black enamel with a sharp-pointed instrument, as seems clear from the fact that the brittle enamel was rudely splintered away, leaving jagged the lines of the letters. All of these ostraka bear simply the name of the person to be ostracized and that of his father; that against Megacles, however, bears in addition the deme from which he hailed.

Of late, considerable discussion has been aroused with regard to the bronze statue of Delphi which M. Homolle has identified as that of Hiero, and perhaps correctly. But in a paper read before the Parnassos recently, Svoronos disputes Homolle's identification, and undertakes to prove that the statue is that of Battos, the founder of Cyrene, a hero besung of Pindar. Svoronos's chief argument is based on a passage in Pausanius (10, 15, 3), in which that worthy tells us that the Cyrenæans dedicated at Delphi a statue of Battos in a chariot; that the charioteer was Cyrene, while in the chariot stood Battos being crowned by Libya; that the group was a work of Amphion of Cnossos, son of Akestor. Svoronos adduced many arguments to prove his thesis. He thinks that Cyrenæan coins of the period have as type the Battos group of Amphion, and he has restored the Delphian group in accordance with these coins. There is a certain dissymmetry in the face of the bronze statue of Delphi, especially about the mouth. Now Battos was paralyzed and a stammerer, and Svoronos argues that this dissymmetry was intended to indicate that fact. Svoronos tries to prove, furthermore, that the inscription on the base of the statue was composed by none other than Pindar himself. The thesis of Svoronos was very convincing at the first blush, because many things seemed to speak for it, though it is certain that many other things speak against it. At a recent meeting of the French School, M. Homolle attempted to refute the arguments of Svoronos, and, as many think, successfully. But the end is not yet, *lis sub judice est*, and the ball started rolling by Svoronos has gained sufficient momentum to excite discussion in archæological circles for some time to come.

A most important discovery was made recently at Hagios Basileios, a village at the foot of Mt. Cithæron in a nook of the Corinthian Gulf. Remains of ancient ship houses are still visible in the sea, and the spot is regarded by the Greek archæologists as the seaport of ancient Platææ. A fisherman, while busied with his nets at this spot, discovered in the sea a bronze statue of about half life size. Apparently the fisherman was unusually stupid, for, being ignorant of the value of the statue, he sold it for a song to some peasants, who took it to Thebes. They were told that its value was immeasurable. Fearing, therefore, that the Government might take it from them, they hid it and denied its existence, but nevertheless stories of the great discovery reached Athens. An Ephor posted off to Thebes, found the peasants, and, with the help of the police, succeeded in wresting the treasure from the hands of its owners. The Ephor also visited the place where the statue was found, and succeeded in discovering a pedestal bearing the inscription τὸ Ποτιδάονος ἱερόν. It is, however, not yet certain that the statue represents Poseidon. No doubt the question will be settled when the base is cleansed completely, for as yet only the first line has been read. The head resembles much that of the traditional Zeus of Olympia. The thinner parts of the body of the statue have been destroyed by time and by ages of immersion in the salt sea. But, in strange contrast therewith, the head is well preserved, even the hairs of the head and beard being quite distinct. The head is mostly gilded and is crowned by a round gilded headband. It is regarded as a splendid specimen of the archaic art of the sixth century

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before Christ; according to Greek archæologists, equal, if not superior, to the bronze Hiero found at Delphi by the French. Unfortunately, the badly oxidized statue is in many pieces, but, as the arms, legs, and a great part of the torso were found, it can be joined together successfully, though many gaps will be left. The statue is now in the Museum at Athens, and is exposed to public view even before the needed repairs have been made.

It may interest many to know that the battlefield of Chæroneia, and the village in which Plutarch played as a child, is now the property of an American lady. The story of the lion of Chæroneia is unutterably sad. Erected originally to commemorate the valor, not the victory, of those who fought for and lost the cause of Grecian freedom on the fate-fraught field of Chæroneia, the grim-visaged lion defied man and time for more than two millennia. But, for the past seventy years of the enlightened nineteenth century, it has lain in broken dishonor, with its upturned face, defiant still despite the ages, making mute appeal to heaven. At last, however, an attempt is to be made to rescue from further ruin and decay a monument so venerable, so sad, and therefore so inspiring and so holy. The Archæological Society has determined to restore the lion and to reërect it on the field over which it has stood sentry for these decades of centuries, the while the wicked world wagged on, while empire after empire rose and fell, while new religions, aye, and new nations, undreamed of in the days when first the lion was erected, sprang and flourished for age on age, only to melt away and be no more as time grew old and ripe.

J. R. S. Sterrett.

Correspondence.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The communication in your issue of the 15th inst. does not locate the responsibility for the ratio of school holidays and working-days; and no doubt most thoughtless persons consider this ratio one of the blisses of teaching. Of course, the fact is, schools have practically nothing to do with defining holidays, as every effort of their despair abundantly proves. Parents and children every year go earlier to the country and return later to town, not even going and returning in concert, but with irregular individual caprice, thus discounting by confusion the days or weeks left for the remnant of their fellows. Three or four months of unproductiveness is more than millionaires allow themselves; yet schoolmasters are supposed in some way to glory in so much enforced idleness, which would indeed be intolerable but for the peculiar exhaustions of their work.

In acceptance of the inevitable, teachers would gladly acquiesce in any long vacation that would secure immunity from Tuesday and Thursday holidays that mean the loss of Monday and Friday; but authorities that appoint anniversary celebrations or special ceremonials think of everything else except the interests of schools, and our few weeks continue to be vitiated, our labors to be wasted, our results to be condemned, our exactions increased, and our felicities exaggerated. No one of these holidays is as significant as the break of momentum is detrimental, and no teacher wants the break, while, on the other hand, the special theory of the celebration is ignored by the boy in his general conception of a holiday, so that he suffers a great loss with no gain. With Saturdays and Sundays as regular reliefs, he needs no holiday during the year: in any case, if he needs some, he cannot stand all—a form of the horse-tail argument that advocates of new holidays overlook. No mechanic, artist, or professional man works under such disadvantages; even strikes are less precarious and whimsical; and none of these laborers is condemned as a matter of course for deficiencies deliberately provided for him by others. Yet colleges and the public do thus mock and condemn the most innocent of their servants.—Yours truly,

Caskie Harrison.

Brooklyn, April 17, 1897.

LESS—AND MORE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Accept one hearty Amen, please, to the suggestion that Homer be postponed until college or university days. This is not, indeed, an absolutely novel heresy. So loyal a pair of Grecians as Prof. Seymour and Dr. Keep have discussed it, pro and con, once at least, before a convention of teachers.

My own radicalism goes a longish step farther. Our vernacular speech, carrying the historic English literature from Caedmon to Kipling, must soon come to its self-evident rights as the chief object in all required linguistic study. One language on our Teutonic side and one from the Romance group may fairly be called essential, if only to form the basis of conscious comparison for English. German has, of course, no rival for the former choice. Even a Philhellene must concede, though regretfully, that Latin is the other indispensable.

Our boys must go to college younger; what they undertake in school at all must be more adequately mastered; we can't make indefatigable bookworms of them, as the German gymnasium may; daily athletics, long idle vacations, nonchalant parents, the reluctant schoolboy himself, are here to stay—all this must be conceded, too.

Girls' colleges, starting in these last decades, have not attempted to enforce the Greek entrance requirement. Already many ancient gates swing open, however grudgingly, to masculine youth without the magic sesame of τύπτω. We may as well yield the Thermopylæ we never really won. Greek, pursued reluctantly for three or even four years, by boys with no linguistic gift or taste, to be abandoned at the earliest possible moment, is forgotten with incredible promptness, leaving a vague stain upon the memory, nowise worth the time and toil and tears it has cost.

"Two languages besides English" should be the minimum demand, as the ordinary high school or academy graduate passes easily, albeit on probation, into college. Both institutions should encourage the attempt to accomplish the mastery of a third, at least, whenever a child, or group of children, shall have the capacity and the time. (The English classification into "pass" and "honor" men is worth considering.) Whether that third language be Greek, or French, or Italian may be determined by the needs of the pupil, or, still oftener, by the fitness of the teacher.

The cynical critic is still in full cry after the "illiterate" school-graduate, especially the unhappy Harvard Freshman. Nevertheless, several of us have felt, for some time, that perhaps all preparatory schools might well imitate the ancient Lydians, and let their boys surfeit themselves for a full year with athletics only, if meantime the instructors could be "rounded up" in the universities, and taught to begin, seriously, making the acquaintance of *one language apiece!*

How many of us have tried to know what we pretend to teach? What proportion of our instructors in "Latin," for instance, ever saw a fragment of Ennius, an epigram of Martial, a tragedy of Seneca? Who will write a synopsis in a thousand words of Quintilian's ideal of education? Nay, how many will hear without terror that their class will read, next month, not the 'Archias' but the 'Murena,' the Civil War in preference to the Gallic, the ninth book of the 'Æneid' instead of the fourth? We teach "reading at sight"; how many would dare read *for the first time* with their class an average chapter of Gellius or letter of Pliny? As to an actual manuscript or inscription, it might or might not occur to us at first glance that it is in the language which we teach. This sweeping characterization is unfair to many devoted and diligent specialists. Still, the composite portrait will be recognized.

The average youth (or maid) comes, armed with a fresh B.A., to teach Greek *and* Latin, perhaps a goodly leash of other accomplishments, when he has no special preparation at all, has never devoted himself for a month exclusively to any one study. He needs at least a year to make the acquaintance of one language and of its literature *as an organic whole* before he can introduce beginners to it intelligently. I propose, in all earnest, that we "give a rest," at least in vacation, to the much-maligned urchin, and hunt—ourselves!

Wm. C. Lawton.

Brooklyn, April 21, 1897.

THE ANTIQUITY OF WELLERISMS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I observe in the papers a discussion about the origin of that peculiar form of humorous comparison used by Dickens in his 'Pickwick Papers' and for a while wearisomely popular under the title of "Wellerisms." It may interest some of your readers to know that it can claim a very respectable antiquity. In the 'Satiricon' of Petronius (a work written in the first century), one of the guests at a supper is complaining of the hardness of the times and general miserableness of things, and another offers consolation: "Don't talk in that way: such is life. What we have not to-day, we may have to-morrow. 'Now it is so, and now it is so,' as the countryman said who had lost a spotted pig." (*Modo sic, modo sic, inquit rusticus: varium porcum perdiderat.*).

W. H. B.

LINES BY THOMAS PAINE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: On the fly-leaf of a copy of 'Common Sense' purchased at a book sale in this country, the following lines are written, I believe by Thomas Paine:

"ON THE KING'S ILLNESS, 1789.

See the vengeance of Heaven! America cries,
George loses his senses, North loses his eyes:
When they strove to enslave us, all Europe will find
That the tyrant was mad, and his Minister blind!"

It will be remembered that Paine was in London at this time, 1789, and that the King's

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insanity occurred about the same time as the blindness of Lord North, who died in 1792.

MONCURE D. CONWAY.

LONDON, April 10, 1897.

WHITTIER AND THE 'NARRATIVE OF JAMES WILLIAMS.'

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: So much interest has recently centred upon the little book here named that perhaps a few additional "facts in the case" may possess sufficient importance to prove acceptable. These facts are obtained from recently acquired files of the anti-slavery journals, the *Emancipator* and the *Liberator*, the numbers of which for 1838 give much prominence to James Williams and his 'Narrative,' and dispel any doubts surrounding Whittier's connection with the tale.

In the *Emancipator* for January 25, 1838, appears for the first time the announcement:

"James Williams—the fugitive slave. An authentic narrative of this slave—now a FREEMAN—self-emancipated—is in the press and will be speedily published, and we venture to say that no work more interesting has been published since the beginning of the Anti-Slavery discussion. It will be a narrative of facts, illustrating the cruelties and blasphemies connected with slavery. The names of persons connected with James will be printed at length, together with a portrait of the fugitive, so that the statements can be verified or contradicted. The story has been taken down from the lips of James, by J. G. Whittier, by whom the work will be prepared for the press. Pages 130. 18mo."

The issue of the paper for February 18 contains a list of "books recently published, and for sale at the Anti-Slavery office, 143 Nassau Street, New York." First on this list is:

"Narrative of James Williams, an American Slave; who was for several years a driver on a cotton plantation in Alabama—by John G. Whittier. Published by the American Anti Slavery Society, and for sale at their office, No. 143 Nassau St., 18mo, pp. 108; price 18¾ cts. single, $14 per hundred."

(It will be noted that the announcement *before* publication specified pp 130; that *after*, pp. 108—a reduction in size which might have been caused by the omission of intended introductory matter.) This announcement was reprinted in subsequent issues of the journal.

In the *Emancipator* for April 19 appears an extract from the *Alabama Beacon* of March 29 (denouncing the Narrative as "a foul fester of falsehood"), appended to which is an editorial rejoinder of the *Emancipator*, containing the statement:

"The book was not written by 'some peddling Yankee preacher,' as is suggested by your correspondent, but by JOHN G. WHITTIER, whose name is beyond the impeachment of mercenary motives. Neither is the 'copyright secured,' as the same correspondent may know by the absence of certificate on the back of the title-page."

The issue for May 3 contains a catalogue of anti-slavery publications, among other titles in which appears:

"Williams, James. A most interesting and affecting narrative of an *American Slave*, taken from his own lips by John G. Whittier. 18mo, pp. 108. Price 25 cents single; $17 per hundred";

and in another column of the catalogue is announced:

"Narrative James Williams, in sheets $1.00 per hundred in any quantity."

The latter announcement proves that a letter to the editor (Rev. Joshua Leavitt), which appeared in the issue for April 12, suggesting that the narrative be "published on a sheet and sold by the thousand—by the tens of thousands, by the hundreds of thousands," was acted upon, and that an edition in broadside, or some such form, may be looked for by the earnest collector. After May 3 the catalogue feature of the *Emancipator* is omitted, and, except some comment from correspondents, no reference to James Williams appears again until August 16, when an editorial headed "James Williams" states:

"The *Alabama Beacon* of July 26, published at the county seat of Greene County, brings us a letter written by Mr. Lewis Tappan to the editor, with a number of certificates from Alabama and Virginia, calculated to discredit the narrative of James Williams. Mr. Tappan is at present out of town, but the matter will be looked into without delay. And in the meantime, as the committee have no object or interest but in the truth, our publishing agent has stopped the sale of the book."

The issue for August 23 contains a brief editorial note on the subject, and that for August 30 enters extensively into the controversy, ten columns being devoted to the statement, entitled "*Alabama Beacon* versus James Williams," prepared by James G. Birney and Lewis Tappan. The opening paragraph states that "the narrative was prepared and published under the direction of the executive committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society, in the latter part of the winter," and refers to

"the regular narrative, in which the narrator himself was the principal actor, and to most of the particulars of which he could himself testify. . . . The narrative was accompanied by a prefatory essay, in which numerous well-authenticated facts connected with American slavery were brought together and presented in such a manner as to force the belief that the picture exhibited in the narrative, if not drawn from life, was certainly true to nature. . . . The narrative was sent gratuitously to all the members of Congress soon after it was published. In the slave States it has had some, though a limited, circulation."

The "statement" embraces extensive articles from the *Alabama Beacon*, and letters from several residents of the localities named in the narrative, which contradicted the charges contained in the book. A further rejoinder (the tone of which would seem to imply that the sale of the publication was resumed) by the Anti-Slavery Society appears in the issue for September 20, discrediting the statements advanced by the *Alabama Beacon*, and the letters quoted. This is followed by an editorial note:

"Credibility of James Williams. Friend Whittier, who is not over credulous and is certainly honest, gives his present judgment of the matter in these terms: 'We have examined the Southern testimony, and while we candidly admit that it has created a doubt in our mind of the accuracy, in some minute particulars, of the statement made by the fugitive to several gentlemen in this State [Whittier was at the time editor of the *Pennsylvania Freeman*] and in New York (and which was written down from his lips by ourself), we are still disposed to give credit in the main to his narrative."

The catalogue of anti-slavery publications is resumed in the *Emancipator* for September 28, but omits mention of the narrative, which is noticed for the last time in the issue for October 25, in the article headed "Statement authorized by the Executive Committee." In this article the committee expresses its conviction that the contradictions advanced by the *Alabama Beacon* are correct; that the statements made by the ex-slave "are wholly false, and therefore they [the members of the committee] cannot with propriety ask for the confidence of the community in any of the statements contained in the narrative"; ending with the resolution: "That the said special committee prepare, as soon as may be, a statement in relation to said narrative, to be inserted in the *Emancipator*, and that the publishing agent be directed to discontinue the sale of the work."

The *Liberator* for March 9 contains, over the signature "Memento," its first notice of the book. The same issue announces that "I. Knapp, 25 Cornhill, is agent for all the publications of the American Anti-Slavery Society." An extract from the Narrative of James Williams appears in the number for March 16, followed, in the issue for March 30, by the announcement:

"Narrative of an American Slave! Narrative of James Williams, an American Slave; who was for several years a driver on a cotton plantation in Alabama. Published and sold by Isaac Knapp at 25 Cornhill—price, bound, 25 cents; paper covers, 18¾ cents"

Appended is an extract from the editor's preface to the work, and this: "Note. The reader is referred to John G. Whittier of Amesbury, Mass., [and others]," the note being copied from front cover of the book, with date appended, "Mar. 30." The advertisement is repeated in the issues for April 6, 13, 20; May 11, 25; June 22, 29; July 13, 27; August 10, 17; September 7, 21; October 5, 19.

The dates of New York and Boston announcements will be noted as determining the place of publication of the first edition, also that of Isaac Knapp's appointment as agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society's publications, and the different styles in which the issue bearing the Boston imprint was supplied.

The editor of the *Liberator* (William Lloyd Garrison) would seem to have adopted an attitude of extreme caution towards the Narrative, and to have held aloof from the controversy as to the truth or falsehood of the slave's story, merely reprinting, without comment, in the *Liberator* for September 28, an extract from the *Emancipator* (expressing confidence in the Narrative), and copying (also without comment), in the *Liberator* for November 2, the "authorized statement" of the *Emancipator*, October 25, already referred to; after which date no further allusion is made to James Williams.

These facts prove conclusively that Whittier's connection with the publication was, in 1838, almost as generally known as if his name as author or editor had appeared on the title-page.

P. K. FOLEY.

Notes.

MISS ISABEL F. HAPGOOD has completed a Prayer-book for the Russo-Greek Church, and has submitted the MS. to the Holy Synod of Russia for criticism. Bishop Nicholas (Aleutian Islands and Alaska), the Russian Prelate for America, heartily approves of the undertaking, and stands sponsor for the book with the Holy Synod. The subject is vast and complicated, as no complete service, even of the customary Mass, Matins, and Vespers, exists in Russia. Miss Hapgood has, however, constructed a series of services from the enormous material in the ecclesiastical books (a complete set of which Bishop Nicholas presented to her, with his blessing), which any one can follow—even persons unfamiliar with

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liturgies. The plan of the book includes a condensed but complete compendium of ecclesiastical usages and symbolism, the latter being also indicated in such a manner that it can be grasped as the service proceeds. The Eastern Church has long needed such a practical book, for the use of visitors to Russia, to Greece, to the churches of that rite in the European capitals and in this country, where considerable congregations exist at many points. Rev. William R. Huntington, D.D., of Grace Church in this city is the American revisor and corrector of the liturgical language in the volume.

Ginn & Co., Boston, are soon to publish the first part of a work on 'German Orthography and Phonology,' by Prof. George Hempl of the University of Michigan. The second part, consisting of an alphabetical list of the difficult words of the language, with spelling and pronunciation phonetically transcribed, is in preparation.

A. S. Barnes & Co. are to publish 'The Annals of Switzerland,' by Miss Julia M. Cotton, and 'The History of the Waldenses,' by Mme. Sophia Bompiani.

A remodelled series of the year-book 'Who's Who?' is announced by Macmillan Co.

Universal history in monographs is the nature of a new undertaking by the great bookmaking house of Velhagen & Klasing in Bielefeld (New York: Lemcke & Buechner). The first number, dealing with the Medici, will be from the pen of Prof. Dr. Eduard Heyck, to be followed by Queen Elizabeth, by Prof. Dr. Erich Marcks, Kaiser Maximilian I, by Prof. Dr. Heyck, the Crusades, the Hohenstaufen, etc., down to Napoleon I., Freiherr vom Stein, Kaiser Wilhelm I., Bismarck, etc. The series will be admirably illustrated, and will be sold separately.

Few who are fond of the older Italian literature have not, at one time or another, cherished a mad ambition to translate Giovanni Villani's chronicle into the easy, good-natured English it deserves. But even if the task were done, and properly done, the version would search long for a publisher, and, if published, would claim scant attention. It is better to be content with the selections from the first nine books which have been translated, "for the use of students of Dante and others," by Rose E. Selfe, under the supervision of Philip H. Wicksted (London: Archibald Constable; New York: Macmillan Co.). The extracts chosen are chiefly those which illustrate passages in Dante's various works, and marginalia give the appropriate references. The greatest good, however, that "students of Dante and others" will acquire from the volume may perhaps be a keener feeling for the somewhat complacent Florentine spirit, as unconsciously depicted by this calm chronicler of party feuds and "boss" rule, whose Guelph judgment held that Dante "delighted to denounce and cry out after the manner of the poets, perhaps in certain places more than was fitting; but may be his exile was the cause of this." The translation is excellent.

The press of the University of Chicago issues a very elaborate monograph by Prof. John W. Million, entitled 'State Aid to Railways in Missouri.' By way of introduction the author reviews the experiments made by most of our States in "internal improvements" and other business enterprises, the results being, with hardly an exception, disastrous. "There is not a single case," he says, "in the whole list of the States attempting the construction or the assistance in the construction of public works between 1825 and 1840 in which there is evidence of commanding administrative ability. In the case of almost all there is an absence of what can be called immaculate honesty." Although Missouri did not fairly begin her experiments until the middle of the century, the experience of other States had no lessons for her statesmen. After spending many millions in various railroad enterprises, the State found the charges intolerable, and sold out its interests at a very heavy loss. The loss, it seems, was much increased by the venality of legislators; and in this case, as well as others, incompetency and corruption proved to be obstacles fatal to the success of governmental ventures in the field of business. Prof. Million has done his work with great care, and has furnished a valuable body of evidence on this subject.

Paul Bourget's last book, 'Recommencements' (Paris: Lemerre), contains some very strong work indeed. It is a collection of ten tales, every one of which is admirably told, with a surer and deeper art than the author has yet exhibited. Several of the characteristic traits of M. Bourget reappear; the old love of rank, society, wealth, and the luxuries of modern civilization has not abandoned him, but the profoundly human interest he has imparted to his characters and to the scenes he describes compensates for this slight snobbishness. Four of the tales especially commend themselves by the sense of power: "Le David," "Saïda," "L'Adoration des Mages," and "Pendant la bataille."

Now that Adolphe Jullien's "Le Romantisme et l'éditeur Renduel" has been published in book form by Charpentier & Fasquelle, one can enjoy to the full the recollections of the man who came into such close and intimate contact with all the great writers of that once famous and influential school. Something of what made the enthusiasm of the bygone Romantic days may be gathered from the reminiscences of Renduel which M. Jullien has so interestingly woven together. The illustrations, consisting of reproductions of portraits, caricatures, and facsimiles of autographs, add considerably to the interest and value of the book.

Mosapp's 'Charlotte von Schiller' is the first book to present in brief and attractive form the life and character of Schiller's wife. The two extensive works published years ago under the direction of her daughter, Frau von Gleichen, offer biographical material in abundance, but they can hardly be called biographies. Fulda's book of 1878 is so lacking in historical arrangement, and there is so little distinction between the essential and the unessential in his treatment, that a well-proportioned idea of Charlotte's life can scarcely be secured from it. Mosapp puts into his book only that which really has to do with her life and character, and therefore Schiller's work and life are mentioned only when he directly contributed to her development. Although the book is of rather a popular nature, it is based on scientific principles, and, where convenient, the story is told in Charlotte's own words, taken from her correspondence. The book is dedicated to King Wilhelm II. of Würtemberg as a token of appreciation of his interest in establishing the Swabian Schiller Society some two years ago, and for his encouragement in the founding of the Schiller museum and archive at Marbach. The remains of the poet's wife lie in the graveyard at Bonn instead of at her husband's side as she so much desired. Their sole descendant is a great-grandson, Alexander Schiller von Gleichen-Russwurm.

A singularly indigested compilation is the 'Literary Year-book' just adventured in London by George Allen (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.). Frank admission is made of a change of purpose to which much of the confusion may be attributed, but which cannot account for a sketch, with portrait, of Mr. G. S. Street, being deliberately intercalated in a list of literary clubs, learned societies and institutions, page 110 ending with the Oriental Translation Fund, p. 111 being a bastard title, and the list proceeding again with the Oxford and Cambridge Club on p. 115. This is the very madness of bookmaking. The explanation appears to be that the editor aimed to secure readability for a reference book. The value of this annual lies almost solely in its directories—of British authors, public libraries, literary clubs as aforesaid, publishers, booksellers, etc. The literary articles are slight. A number of the *dii minores* of literature of the present hour are pictured and briefly biographized. The portrait of the poet W. B. Yeats, by his father, puts the photographs to the blush. A list of eight errata is inserted. We can add two more: "At" for As, on p. vi., and "sold up" (!) for sealed up, on p. 60 (of the Guildhall Library).

Mrs. Caroline H. Dall has reprinted in a little brochure (Boston: Roberts Bros) her two-year-old lecture on "Transcendentalism in New England," which was first published in the *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*. Like all that Mrs. Dall writes, it is lively and interesting reading. She embraces in her survey Anne Hutchinson and Margaret Fuller, and is mostly concerned, in her intimate sketches of individual lights, to give credit of priority to Dr. F. H. Hedge in paving the way for the Concord group, for Brook Farm, etc. Of Alcott she writes impatiently.

McClure's Magazine for May opens with an article on Mr. G. C. Cox, the photographer, who holds a place apart not only in this city, but in the profession generally. Miss Tarbell's text is exemplified by numerous portraits of celebrities, but none of these speaks as much for the skill of Mr. Cox as the succeeding portrait of President Cleveland (we believe, the very latest before he laid down the cares of office), which stands at the head of Carl Schurz's notable review of his administrative career. The ordinary machine-made photograph of commerce after the same face bears no relation to Mr. Cox's rare psychologic selection. Mr. Schurz's story will be novel to most of us because a short memory is an American characteristic. It is not mere eulogy.

A reduced facsimile of Alexander Selkirk's will is the curiosity of the April number of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. The body of it is a printed form. It bears date December 12, 1720, and the pay-book of H. M. S. *Weymouth* shows that this "master's mate" died just a year later, December 12, 1721. Mr. Henry F. Waters, continuing to move in that other-world of decedents and testators which must sometimes seem to him the only real existence, deals, in his "Genealogical Gleanings in England," with connections of Banks, Bates, Burroughs, Foote, Vassall—to mention a part. Dr. John Ward Dean, in a modest paragraph, commemorates his editorial direction of the *Register* for just one-half the fifty and a half years of its issuance. We read on p. 227 that Mr. Eben Putnam of Salem, Mass., proposes to print abstracts of the probate records of that county, giving every name occurring in the wills and settle-

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ments of estates to the close of the eighteenth century. But he must be assured of fifty subscriptions in advance, at five dollars each.

Bibliographica (London: Kegan Paul; New York: Scribners) closes its third volume and its career in a worthy manner. Sir E. Maunde Thompson compares the block book 'Biblia Pauperum' with an antecedent MS. whose miniatures in theme are in close agreement with the woodcuts. This article is finely illustrated. Mr. Andrew Lang, fresh from Pickle, the Spy, discourses on "Late Jacobite Tracts," while Mr. Robert Edmund Graves describes the nuggets of the Isham collection of rare Elizabethan and other English works, which has in part been acquired by the British Museum. Elaborate and authoritative, and richly exemplified, is Mr. Alfred W. Pollard's "Illustrations in French Books of Hours, 1486-1500." Not to be overlooked, decidedly, are the Addenda to former articles. A general index to the three volumes follows the Epilogue.

The effect of alcohol on mountain-climbers is discussed by Dr. Otto Snell in No. 3 of the *Mittheilungen des Deutschen und Oesterreichischen Alpenvereins*. Last autumn he had a card in the same publication requesting climbers to forward their personal experiences and views to him. He received sixty communications, thirty-seven of which, or 62 per cent., condemn the use of liquors, wine, or beer as an impediment rather than an aid. Twelve are for a moderate use of wine, but pronounce against brandy and beer. Three believe in taking brandy along, to be used, however, not as a stimulant, but in case of need as a medicine or to mix with glacier-water. Only five of the sixty expressed their belief that alcoholic drinks are beneficial or harmless to climbers. The general conclusion drawn by Dr. Snell from these answers is that while in exceptional cases alcohol may be harmless, or possibly useful, as a rule great moderation is desirable, while the majority of experts are for total abstinence until after the climb is over, and some even strongly urge abstinence, or great moderation, on the day before the expedition. One of the correspondents expressed his conviction that the bottled drinks taken along by climbers benefit no one but the tavern-keepers from whom they buy them.

The *Chronik der Christlichen Welt* prints statistical tables from which it gathers the surprising information that the number of theological students in the German universities has decreased from 4,527 in 1890 to 2,956 in 1896, or more than one-third. The decrease occurred at all the evangelical faculties excepting those of Griefswald and Erlangen, and it is more noticeable in North than in South Germany. It is considered the more remarkable in view of the fact that within recent years the income of the clergy has been materially increased. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* is inclined in large part to attribute the growing disinclination of young men to study theology to the attempts made, especially in North Germany, to crush the tendency to apply scientific methods to the study of religious questions.

We notice the advent of the *Japan Times*, a six-page daily and weekly newspaper founded by Japanese enterprise wholly, though a foreign editor will be employed. It is printed wholly in English, and will have colored supplements and pay particular attention to those things Japanese which are most in the eye of foreigners. Paper, print, and proof-reading in this first issue are unexceptionable. We note many features of interest, including an announcement of a translation into Japanese of Capt Mahan's 'The Influence of Sea-Power upon History.' (The *Times* office is No. 5 Uchisaiwai-cho, Tokyo.)

The Buddhist magazine, *Hansei Zasshi*, vol. xii., No. 2, in English, besides fine illustrations of scenery and a picture of the late dowager empress, contains an interesting article showing the original text of a Chinese Buddhist sutra containing the word Messiah and in the same phonetization as that (mi-shi-ho) upon the famous Nestorian tablet, the authenticity of which has been established by such scholars as Legge and Pauthier.

In 1895 $180,000 was given by the Legislature of Wisconsin to erect a fire-proof edifice exclusively for safeguarding the collections of the State Historical Society, now amounting to 100,000 volumes and as many pamphlets, with manuscripts yet more rare and priceless. This structure has been building ever since, on ample grounds, and adapted architecturally to be made threefold larger so as to include the University Library under the same roof. This projected extension, which it was believed must be deferred for a decade, is to become an accomplished fact immediately. The Legislature has just now laid a tax for this purpose which will yield $420,000. It has also raised the annual appropriation in aid of the society from five to fifteen thousand dollars.

While the death of Christian Ludvig Edvard Lembcke, which occurred March 20, is of primary interest to students of Danish literature, it is not without significance to lovers of our own poetry through his admirable translations of Shakspere and Byron. Lembcke was born in Copenhagen June 15, 1815. After passing both the theological and the philological examinations he became a teacher, and from 1850 till 1864 he was assistant rector of the famous Latin School at Haderslev in Schleswig. He was one of the most enthusiastic "Scandinavians" and National Liberals of that time, and his zeal for the Danish cause in Southern Jutland led to his dismissal from his post. His best-known poem, which is also one of the most popular and characteristic of the Danish national songs, "Vort Modersmaal er dejligt" (Our Mother-tongue is Lovely), is a warm expression of his patriotism. The translation of Shakspere was undertaken chiefly in order to occupy his mind after the exile from Schleswig. It was published in 1865-72, and immediately won recognition as the standard Danish version. It is evidently largely based on the translation of Foersom and Wulff of twenty years before. Although often lacking the vigor and spirit of the original, especially in the later tragedies, it is with few exceptions correct and without exception poetical. Lembcke's versions of Byron are said to be remarkably happy. It is of interest to note that a third edition of the Shakspere, in nine volumes, with numerous illustrations by Hans Tegner, was announced at the beginning of the year, the first part having appeared shortly before the translator's death.

A correspondent writes: "You cannot follow the Greek struggles with more zest than I do, for I claim to have shared in the first war for liberation. The United States could do nothing as a Government, but our people did much to feed and clothe the rebels. Pattern suits were sent about New England, and some came to my native village, one of which fitted me, not yet in my teens; so I was dressed in fez, fustinella, leggings, etc., and sent to every house in the village—an ambulatory advertisement, much ridiculed by boys and girls, but which brought all their mothers together in sewing-circles and turned out a hundred garments which warmed as many Greeks shivering in nakedness, and brought the blessing of those ready to perish on Yankee sewing-women. When first at Athens in '68 I had many a favor in acknowledgment of my boyish service."

—Sir Martin Conway's account of his last summer's expedition to Spitzbergen is given in the April number of the *Geographical Journal*. To the lay reader the results do not seem commensurate with the hardships and dangers encountered from glaciers, bogs, innumerable streams, and "vile" weather. The chief interest in the exploration seemed to lie in the fact that the island gives "one of the very best examples in the world of the processes of mountain and valley manufacture." From the examination of the glaciers, there is some reason to believe that the climate is ameliorating. A tourists' inn, it may be added, has been opened at Advent Point on the west coast. Lieut. Vandeleur tells of various expeditions made by him in Uganda and the adjacent countries. The most interesting was one down the Nile, during which he landed at several of the old stations of Emin Pasha. There were few signs remaining of the Egyptian occupation, nor did there appear to be any Dervishes in the "uninviting" country. Under the British rule, however, Uganda is progressing rapidly. The population is increasing largely. "A regular post has been established, which the chiefs avail themselves of to write to each other," and a silver currency is taking the place of cowries and beads. A description of the work of the commission for laying down the southern boundary of Afghanistan, by Capt. McMahon, contains some vivid pictures of the borderland of India and its great deserts of moving sand, parts of which were anciently inhabited by a dense population, as is attested by the numerous remains of cities and canals. The line passed over an extraordinary earthquake crack, "as clearly defined as a deep railway cutting," which was surveyed for 120 miles. Besides numerous illustrations, each of these articles is accompanied by admirable maps. There is to be noted a lack of uniformity in the spelling of the geographical names in the text and on the maps, and it is accordingly difficult to determine which is the correct form, as, for instance, Hinloopen or Hinlopen, and Kobuk or Kohuk. A suggestive paper, by A. W. Andrews, discusses the teaching of geography in relation to history.

—In perusing volume v. of *Cosmopolis*, including the numbers for the first three months of the second year of its existence (January-March, 1897), we are impressed with the success which has attended this venturesome undertaking. To enlist for a single review such an array of first-class writers, representing the principal currents of modern literature and three different nations, was no small feat. This once accomplished, the rest may have been comparatively plain sailing. Still, the coördination and adjustment of so large a number of articles, from eighteen to twenty-two in each number, is fraught with difficulties to overcome and dangers to be avoided. The average length of fifteen pages for each contribution, conditioned by the nearly uniform size (300 pp.) of each issue, is seldom exceeded by any of the writers; and this measure strikes us as a judicious one if the aim be to keep clear both of the Scylla of scrappiness and the Charybdis of heaviness—relative

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terms, to be sure, but not absolutely indefinite. While none of the articles are ponderous, nearly all of them are sufficiently serious; even such genial discourse as Max Müller's "Literary Recollections" contains so much of interest about literary celebrities of the last fifty years, and is interspersed with so many reflections and judgments, that at least every student or lover of English literature will feel repaid for reading the articles. But we must not begin to single out individual names when nearly all belong to the foremost novelists, critics, historians, politicians, etc., of England, France, and Germany. The utility of such an international and trilingual review will not for a moment be questioned by any one who has occasional half-hours to spare for orienting himself, or keeping up his interest in the literary, political, artistic, and scientific movements of the time, and who, in so doing, likes to enjoy the flavor of the soil on which he happens to be moving. The publisher (T. Fisher Unwin) has now arranged for a monthly supplement in Russian, and announces for the near future similar supplements in Dutch, Scandinavian, and Italian, all of which can be procured separately.

—On April 14 the Zoölogical Station at Naples celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its foundation, and the *Frankfurter Zeitung* of March 24 and 25 anticipated this event by giving a bird's eye view of the work done by that important aquarium and biological laboratory, which has served as a model to numerous similar institutions that have since sprung up in various parts of Europe and America as well as in Japan. It was at a time when the scientific experts were still hotly debating the numerous questions suggested by Darwin's theories, that it occurred to Dr. Anton Dohrn to found, somewhere on the Mediterranean, a laboratory where marine animals might be studied at home, as it were; his belief being that the sea furnished the most valuable specimens for biological research. He had considerable means of his own, and he added to them the profits of his public aquarium at Naples. These, however, did not suffice for carrying out his comprehensive plans, and he therefore appealed to the governments and universities of various countries for assistance. Naples gave him a convenient location, while the Ministry of Agriculture at Rome contributed $8,000 and an annual subvention of $500. The German Government recognized the value of the Zoölogical Station in 1880 by voting to contribute $7,500 a year, which sum was in 1890 increased to $10,000. These funds are augmented by means of an ingenious arrangement with various states and universities by which, in return for $500 a year, any one can secure a "table" in the laboratory with all the privileges and conveniences it affords. Germany and her universities have 10 tables, Italy 9, Austria and Russia 2 each, Holland, Belgium, Hungary, Switzerland, Rumania, Bulgaria, 1 each, while others are held by the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, the British Association, Smithsonian Institution, etc. The only state that ever gave up its table was Spain, which no longer felt able to pay for it.

—The means for securing material for all these students are as ingenious as the financial arrangements. Two small steamboats are in the service of the Zoölogical Station, and $1,500 is yearly paid to the Naples fishermen at large, who have instructions to bring to the laboratory such contents of their nets as are not utilized in the markets. Not only do the managers in this way secure abundant specimens for use in the laboratory, but arrangements have been made for forwarding specimens to biologists in all parts of Europe, this being another source of income. The institution employs 11 officials and 30 assistants, and the number of students is about 40 in winter, 20 in summer. As certain animals are available only at certain seasons, experimenters are informed beforehand as to the time when they should come to Naples; and so great is the supply of specimens in the aquarium that a student need not be delayed an hour in getting to work. The expense of maintaining the aquarium is great, and there are other ways in which the exchequer is depleted, especially by the literary department. In 1876 the Station commenced the publication of an exhaustive work on the fauna and flora of the Gulf of Naples. There are now twenty-four volumes, the preparation of some of which took a decade and cost over $4,000 apiece. Two other publications are issued by the institute, one (now in its eleventh volume) being entitled *Mittheilungen aus der Zoologischen Station in Neapel*, while the other, *Zoologischer Jahresbericht*, is an ambitious and extremely useful attempt to catalogue the scientific publications of Germany, France, Italy, and England.

—In view of the persistent efforts in behalf of the amelioration of the state of women in Germany, it does not seem that the present unfavorable conditions can last many years longer. The periodical press, exclusively or in part devoted to the woman's cause, continues its work with unabated activity. Such papers as *Die Frauenbewegung* (Berlin), the organ of a dozen associations in different parts of Germany and Switzerland; *Neue Bahnen* (Leipzig), the official organ of the General Women's Union; *Die Gleichheit* (Stuttgart), devoted to the cause of the women of the laboring classes—with all the warmth flowing from sincere sympathy for the oppressed, and with the stern determination springing from faith in the ultimate triumph of socialism; *Die Frau* (Berlin), a monthly edited by Helene Lange and representing the interests of women in the most catholic spirit—these and others do not allow a single phase of the woman question to escape their attention. That the Social Democrats are stanch supporters of "equal rights" for women is well known. Pastor Naumann of Frankfort, the famous Christian Socialist, also comes to the aid of the subjected sex with occasional articles in the columns of *Die Hilfe* (Berlin), the weekly founded by him some three years ago and of which he is still a leader-writer. A multitude of pamphlets, appearing steadily at short intervals, are mostly concerned with the problem in its bearings upon the middle and higher classes, and the relation between these and the lower strata. Thus, E. von der Decken, in 'Die gebildete Frau und die neue Zeit' (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck), writes in the somewhat conservative spirit of a modern Christian gentlewoman on the duties which existing social conditions impose upon the women of the higher classes. 'Die Ausnahmestellung Deutschlands in Sachen des Frauenstudiums,' by Eliza Ichenhaeuser (Berlin: Walther), disposes easily and effectually of some of the most recent enemies of university education for women: Prof. Platter and Prof. Dr. Albert—the latter, a distinguished Viennese surgeon, having previously been met in a manful way by one of his own pupils, Dr. M. Kronfeld, in 'Die Frauen und die Medicin' (Vienna: Konegen). Prof. Dr. O. Lassar deserves recognition as a propagandist among the commercial and industrial classes, before representatives of which, in Berlin, he delivered an address on 'Das medicinische Studium der Frau' (Berlin: Karger), treating the subject from the general human standpoint.

FOOTE'S ANNALS OF KING'S CHAPEL.

Annals of King's Chapel. From the Puritan Age of New England to the Present Day. By Henry Wilder Foote. Vol. II. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1896.

It is now fifteen years since the first volume of Mr. Foote's Annals was reviewed in these columns. The second volume fully maintains the interest of its predecessor, notwithstanding the fact that, owing to Mr. Foote's death in 1889, its form and arrangement have depended much on other hands than his. Mr. Henry H. Edes has proved a careful and judicious editor, availing himself of what was best in the mountain of material amassed by Mr. Foote and of the assistance of several competent and sympathetic workers, notably Dr. A. P. Peabody and Dr. Joseph Henry Allen. Mr. Foote's classmate and friend, Mr. Winslow Warren, has an appreciative chapter on Mr. Foote's ministry—a pathetic addition to the book as Mr. Foote intended it. On the other hand, it falls short of his intention through omitting a chapter on the Unitarian Movement, and a "List of the Parishioners who were not Proprietors of Pews," for which he had made some preparation. But Mr. Edes found the inclusion of this task too formidable. In regard to the Unitarian Movement he does well to suggest that Dr. Allen's 'Historical Sketch of the Unitarian Movement since the Reformation' has done away with the necessity for the chapter which Mr. Foote intended and the editor has omitted.

It is generally as true of happy churches as of happy peoples that they have no annals—at least, none that make interesting reading. The history of King's Chapel was not a happy one during the period of sixty years, from its founding by Sir Edmund Andros in 1686 to the resignation of the Bishop's commissary, the Rev. Roger Price, in 1747—a period covered by Mr. Foote's first volume; and the humorous interest of that volume inhered very largely in the unhappiness of the Episcopal Church in a Puritan community, and in the strained relations which habitually subsisted between the rectors of the church and their people and their assistant ministers. In this volume we have 150 years of almost unbroken felicity in the relations of the chief ministers and people, while the relations of the parish to the "King's Lecturer" were a continual source of friction and annoyance to all who were concerned. But while these infelicities were discounted much more easily after 1746 than before, there were, as time went on, other elements involved in the situation that made superfluous the Nemesis which dogs the steps of the too happy. For the one revolution of the early period, which overthrew Sir Edmund Andros, we have two revolutions in the present volume to make things sufficiently unhappy and to keep up the interest—the first (1776) robbing King's Chapel of its prestige as the Chapel Royal of Great Britain in New England, and the second (1784) eliminating from the prayer-book of the Chapel its Trinitarian elements and converting its congregation into the first Unitarian Society in the United States.

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But it would be most unjust to these annals to create the impression that their interest depends entirely on the two revolutions which affected so profoundly the fortunes of King's Chapel. The quiet, uneventful ministries of Drs. F. W. P. Greenwood and Ephraim Peabody are reported in a way that will be very agreeable to those who love to "follow the things that make for peace" as well as wars and fightings. Then, too, there is much all the way along for those who care for the development of ecclesiastical manners and religious opinions and social character. Many, we are confident, will find in the social aspects of these annals their most entertaining and instructive quality, especially as these aspects are associated with the personality of many celebrated people. It was much easier to be celebrated, or at least conspicuous, in a Boston of 12,000 people than in a Boston forty times as large. Then the individual was not so swallowed up as now in the great multitude. Hardly can it be possible that the men and women of our generation will be memorialized as patiently and tenderly as those who live again for us in Mr. Foote's attractive page. Some of the most interesting passages are those which bring us into a vivid intimacy with such men as Govs. Shirley and Pownall and Bernard, such citizens as Sir Harry Frankland and Dr. Silvester Gardner and his son John, the Minots and the Bulfinches, and Col. Joseph May. Col. May was the tutelary musical genius of the Chapel and the most intimate friend of Dr. Freeman, but is even more distinguished as the father of Samuel J. May of anti slavery fame. At the conclusion of the son's college course his father addressed him somewhat formally, and concluded: "If you have not improved your advantages, or should be hereafter slothful, I thank God that I have not property to leave you that will hold you up in a place among men where you will not deserve to stand." The good words were never mocked by the son's character at any stage of his career. Agnes Surriage, the wife of Sir Harry Frankland, is described in glowing terms, and by consulting the "Plan of Pews," opposite p. 588, the curious may discover the very pew in which she sat and listened to Mr. Caner's painful preaching. There is also a fine picture of Sir Harry's house, the most sumptuous dwelling of the colonial city. The book is rich in portraits and other illustrations, some architectural details being introduced very happily as head and tail pieces. Of the portraits, that of Sumner is as superb in youthful vigor as that of Dr. Walker is unsatisfactory in its senility. There was no falling off in the distinction of a congregation which could boast such a statesman as Sumner and such a poet as Holmes. Charles Sprague also, "the banker poet," was a parishioner, but the circumstance which suggested his loveliest poem, "Gay, guiltless pair," was, unfortunately for the Chapel, not associated with its history.

The present volume opens with the induction of the Rev. Henry Caner to the ministry of the Chapel in 1746. His rectorate ended only with the general exodus of the Royalists in 1776. The most fortunate event of his ministry was the building of a new church, a worthy example of the Renaissance architecture of the eighteenth century, happily preserved till now, though menaced terribly by fire and the more cruel rage of modern improvement. The movement for a new church began in 1748, very shortly after Mr. Caner's installation, the circumstances of which had something of Puritan detachment from English models. He was chosen by the congregation, not imposed by the English bishop; and though the King's Lecturer began with imagining himself the superior functionary, he was very quickly disabused and given to know that the congregation held him in inferior respect. Gov. Shirley led off the subscription for the new church with £100 sterling, and Sir Harry Frankland with half as much. Peter Faneuil outdid the Governor, subscribing £200, though at the time he was building Faneuil Hall and Market as a free gift to the town. The death of Faneuil called a halt, and there was even much difficulty and litigation in extracting the amount of his subscription from his brother Benjamin. Many of the original subscribers added liberally to their original subscriptions before the completion of the work, and there were supplementary subscribers, Sir William Pepperell's being the most famous name upon the list. Though still far from completion, the building was occupied in 1754. In 1758 it had cost £7,405 sterling, a goodly sum when every dollar went much further than it does at present. The new church required a new organ, and Mr. Foote argues plausibly enough for the validity of the tradition that it was selected by an organist of the rarest competency, Handel himself. It has had various vicissitudes, but even now there is something more remaining of it than the case. The crown and mitres which ornamented it before the Revolution, and went into banishment simultaneously with the rector, have been put back where they belong.

There are many interesting side-lights on the story from the political history of the times. One of these, if it should not be called a shadow, came from the death of Gov. Shirley's son with Braddock in his miserable defeat. Another came from the death of that young reprobate, Frederick Prince of Wales, in 1751. It cost the chapel £88 to mourn for him properly, and Mr. Caner a good deal of ingenuity in describing "the well attemper'd majesty and familiarity which are said to have adorn'd this prince's character." On the death of George II., his virtues were somewhat obscured by the splendor of the rising sun, King George the Third, and still there was enough said about "the Glories of his Reign, the Wisdom of his Counsels," and so on.

It was not long before the "region cloud" began to mask the new effulgence. Chapter xvi. of these annals, the fourth in the present volume, is entitled "The Gathering Storm." Gov. Pownall, who succeeded Shirley in 1757, was called a "fribble" by Samuel Adams, and it is conceded by our annalist that he "did not adorn the church as his predecessor had done"; but he divined the situation with remarkable perspicacity, and had he remained, Samuel Adams might have found his occupation gone. In 1783 we find him writing of American independence in a fashion which smacks more of Thomas Paine than of a royal Governor: "I look upon it as a dispensation of Providence, under which the world for [the] future shall, in its polity, be established on and governed by a *new system*, according to the laws of nature and the rights of man." Bernard, his successor, was a much better churchman but a much worse Governor, though even his churchmanship was not above suspicion, for he was "no bigot." Instead of riding from Roxbury into Boston, he often attended the nearest Congregational church, that in Brookline, where the length of the sermons had "a leaning to the side of mercy." He struck the keynote of his whole administration when, in his first address to the Assembly, he spoke of the blessings derived by the colonies from "their *subjection* to Great Britain"—a phrase which was deliberately varied to "their *relation*" in the formal reply to his address. In 1763 we find Mr. Caner referring to the "turbulent and unruly temper" of the times. Gov. Hutchinson was not connected with King's Chapel, but with "the Brick Church at the North End." Nevertheless, his relations to the Chapel were of the friendliest character, and his political temper was that of the majority of the congregation. The last service in the Chapel, before the war broke out, was on September 18, 1774, "before General Gage & his officers & a very numerous & polite assembly, from the text 'Be kindly affectioned one toward another in brotherly love.'" But the sickness of the time was beyond the healing power of texts or sermons, though to aggravate it they could still do much.

Hutchinson wrote in his History that "the people had been persuaded that their religion as well as their liberties was in danger." We have here the subject of chapter xvii., "Episcopacy and the Mayhew Controversy." It is one of the most instructive chapters in the book. It is refreshing and consoling as well as instructive, so much more liberal was the scope of partisan denunciation then than now, so much more full and rich the vocabulary of clerical vituperation. The controversy was begun in 1763 and ended in 1765. It was opened and closed by East Apthorp, the Episcopal missionary at Cambridge. Formally its subject was the corporate right of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts to use its funds for anything but the conversion of the Indian. Practically it took a wider range, and covered the whole question of the relation of the colonies to the English Church. John Adams went straight to the heart of the matter when he said, "If Parliament could tax us, they could establish the Church of England here, with all its creeds, articles, tests, ceremonies, and tythes, and prohibit all other churches as conventicles and schism-shops." Mayhew, minister of the West Church in Boston, was the ablest of the controversialists in opposition to Episcopacy. He found himself "not wounded, but bespattered" by the enemy, and sometimes bespattered with such filth as one finds on p. 266, too dirty to transcribe. The honors in this regard, however, were pretty evenly divided, the lesser lights outshining their superiors in the brilliancy of their controversial conceits.

The number of inhabitants remaining in Boston in February, 1776, is given as only 2,719. Mr. Caner left for Halifax March 10, with seventeen other Episcopal clergymen of Boston and vicinity, when the King's troops marched out and Washington came in. Mr. Caner's warning was so brief that he had to leave his books and furniture behind. The rector of Trinity Church was an ardent Loyalist, and his assistant was making ready to follow him to Halifax when Dr. Eliot of the New North Church prevailed on him to stay and look out for the spiritual interests of the Episcopalians remaining in the city. The assistant was the Rev. Samuel (afterwards Bishop) Parker, and the forlorn remnant of the King's Chapel congregation waited on his ministry. Of seventy-three pews in King's Chapel thirty had been occupied by Loyalists and forty-three by those of the Revolutionary party. The congregation of the Old South held their services in it for about five years, their own church having been spoiled for their occupancy by the British soldiery. The amenities of this posture

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of affairs were in pleasing contrast with the Mayhew controversy.

In 1781, measures were set on foot for the resumption of their own services in the Chapel by the remnant of its former congregation. The first gentleman approached was Mr. Thomas Fitch Oliver of Salem, then a lay reader, and he was warned that the theology of the Society was "Calvinism a little tempered." The negotiation failed, but from this intimation it would seem that Mr. Freeman, whose own Calvinism must have been "a little tempered" from the start, did not come to a people wholly adverse to his opinions. Acting as lay reader for a few months, in April, 1783, Mr. Freeman was chosen pastor of the church. Very soon after, his doubts concerning the Trinity led him to omit all references to that doctrine in the liturgy. His method was quite different from that of the Congregationalist "silent brotherhood." He preached a course of sermons setting forth the change in his opinions in the most explicit manner. He requested a change in the liturgy conformable to the omissions he had made. His request was granted by a vote of twenty yeas to seven nays. An amusing feature of the new prayer-book was a series of doxologies, written by Joel Barlow, subsequently of infidel reputation.

In becoming Unitarian, the church did not at first imagine that it had ceased to be Episcopalian. Mr. Freeman first sought ordination from Bishop Seabury of Connecticut, who was still receiving the half-pay of a British chaplain. The Bishop consulted his clergy, and they advised Mr. Freeman "to go home, to read, to alter his opinions, and then to return." He next tried Dr. Provoost, Bishop-elect of New York, who approved the altered liturgy, but could not act at once. Weary of delay, the Society resolved to ordain their minister themselves, and did so November 18, 1787. This business was the subject of some controversy, but the affairs of the Episcopalians generally at that time were in a fluid state. A few strong men would have carried them over bodily to the theological position of King's Chapel. Nothing could mark more clearly the naïve uncertainty of the King's Chapel Society as to its ecclesiastical standing than a vote passed in 1808, when Mr. Cary was ordained as Mr. Freeman's assistant, to the effect that, if at any time they could procure for him Episcopal ordination, they would do so.

Landscape in Poetry, from Homer to Tennyson. By Francis Turner Palgrave. Macmillan Co. 1897.

In this volume of 300 pages the late Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford has followed the example of his predecessors in that chair, M. Arnold (1857-'67) and J. C. Shairp (1877-'85), in publishing his Oxford lectures (delivered during 1895). In the March number of *Cosmopolis*, Max Müller, in his gentle reminiscences, expressed the hope that these lectures would soon appear.

"They are full of most valuable information, and would prove very useful to many as a book of reference. I have known no one better informed on English poetry than my friend Palgrave. . . . I owe him a great deal, particularly in my early Oxford days. For it was he who revised my first attempts at writing in English. . . . He is now one of the very few friends left who remember my first appearance in Oxford in 1846, and who were chiefly instrumental in retaining my services for a university which has proved a true Alma Mater to me during all my life."

One realizes how deeply the University Extension movement has struck root at Oxford when the Professor of Poetry announces that, in his University lectures, extension students have been "specially kept in view." It is to them, in fact, that the book will chiefly appeal, and Mr. Palgrave pays no very high compliment to the scholarship of the candidates in the "English Honour School" when he recommends these essays to their attention.

Matthew Arnold, in one of his letters, expressed the wish that "a somewhat considerable body of Greek and Latin literature should be so rendered as to make it accessible to readers anxious for some familiarity with the literature of those great languages, which they have studied but little." Mr. Palgrave's aim was to review the treatment of landscape in Greek and Latin, Hebrew, early Italian, Celtic, Anglo-Saxon, and English poetry; and, in the narrow space that he allowed himself, he could devote only about a fifth of the work to the Greek and Latin poets, so that Arnold's wish is only partially realized. Mr. Palgrave is no essayist. It would be vain to expect, in these chapters, the wit, the style, the charm and effectiveness of Arnold's 'Celtic Literature' or 'Art of Translating Homer.' But the tact and appreciation that have made the 'Golden Treasury of Lyrics' "a monument of a nation's strength," have been exercised in the choice of these quotations to which Mr. Palgrave's commentary serves as a thread.

There are "nine and sixty ways" of handling nature, and Arnold has indicated four of them—the conventional, the faithful (which, to invert Beethoven's motto, is *mehr Malerei als Ausdruck der Empfindung*), the Greek, and the magical. He never hinted that chronology could be imported into this classification. Mr. Palgrave, on the other hand, tries to show that man's attitude to nature, in literature, has had a development more or less chronological, though his four periods, as he admits, constantly overlap. According to this treatment, the first step in the poetry of landscape is taken by Homer, with whom nature is the background of human life, though, as constantly in the classical poets, there is the added element of personification, according to which the god, in Pater's phrase, might, at any moment, "slip out of the bark of the olive tree." This is the "Greek way," taken from one side; but Mr. Palgrave will meet the classical scholar half-way who objects that this does not go far towards summing up the Greek and Roman attitude to nature. The view of C. W. Cope, which had some vogue forty years ago, that the Greek feeling for landscape was entirely utilitarian, is justly ignored to-day. The weakness of Mr. Palgrave's method is due to the fact that no great poet has contented himself with one way of handling nature, nor, at any period of literary history, has one method held the field. "There is nothing in Wordsworth more real," says Mr. Lang, "more full of the incommunicable sense of nature, . . . than the Theocritean poem of the Fisherman's Dream." This is only one of the many instances that will occur to the scholar of the modern attitude, latent or plainly expressed, in classical poetry. Hebrew poetry, with its sense of God's law in every natural appearance, is here classed apart; yet one remembers how, even for the "classical" eighteenth-century English poets, especially for Thomson and Akenside, the seasons were "but the varied God." Thirdly, we have the whole field of mediæval literature, with Romance, Celtic (from which Mr. Arnold derived the "magical way"), and Teutonic (from which Wordsworth drew that "Germanic goodness, docility, and fidelity to nature," which made him perceive in "one impulse from a vernal wood" a whole extension movement and a complete ethical code). "Fourthly, knowledge of nature becomes intimacy." Mr. Palgrave's handling of Shelley under this head is hardly sympathetic, but the chapter on his friend Tennyson leaves little to be desired.

In the case of the Greek, Latin, and Italian quotations the original text is given in footnotes—a great advantage for the scholar, who will never be satisfied with another's translation, however faithful. The chapter on early Italian poetry will interest students of Dante; that on Celtic and Gaelic poetry should be read along with Arnold's lecture. We think that, in the chapter on the eighteenth century, more should have been said as to the survival, even in the day of Dryden and Pope, of a sympathetic handling of nature by the minor English poets. Mr. Palgrave's work is not final for any period, but it is sure to attract many readers. We are surprised that he does not mention Biese, whose exhaustive treatises, "Die Entwickelung des Naturgefühls bei den Griechen [1882], bei den Römern [1884], im Mittelalter und in der Neuzeit [1888]," are by far the most important works on this subject. Butcher's excellent essay, 'The Dawn of Romanticism in Greek Poetry,' should have been cited. The English throughout is careless and, here and there, startlingly incorrect. On page 152, note, for *Davies* read *Daniel*.

Genius and Degeneration. By Dr. William Hirsch. Translated from the second German edition. D. Appleton & Co. 1896. Pp. vi, 333.

This volume was announced as an answer to that of Nordau. It is, in fact, a much more serious and valuable work than Nordau's, and a good deal more than a refutation. The writer, after treating the two topics of the title independently, goes on (with more spirit, possibly, than the subject deserves) to show the fallacies of his contemporary.

As to the independent treatment, the reader will find it calm, competent, and convincing. It is the patient product of a specialist in mental pathology; and although it takes unnecessary space in places to prove the evident, and goes to unnecessary pains to disprove the absurd, yet that is a good fault in a work which is to reach the general reader. For example, there is the question as to how really great men can have the sense-illusions which it seems they do have and still be considered sane. It would seem to be evident that any great variation in central brain-processes, whatever be its direction, whether toward unusual endowment or toward defect, would tend to include some variation in the sense-functions. There is no more reason for thinking the illusions of Goethe a pathological symptom than for considering as such the increased vaso-motor activity due to the excitement of hard thinking, simply on the ground that insane patients have violent changes in blood-pressure. And the same may be said in reference to the sort of symptomatic or diagnostic evidence on which the argument of Lombroso, Nordau & Co. generally rests. A certain symptom is liable to be present in a certain case; hence, wherever this symptom or something like it is present, there is the identical disease. To proceed on such a diagnostic in daily life would be

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to kill ourselves off to save the doctor's bills; or, what is worse, to do so to prove a theory of medicine. As a matter of fact, we do not wear on our exterior a catalogue of symptoms which can be read off with such ease. Dr. Hirsch, however, takes this problem and others like it very seriously, and certainly deserves credit for patience.

As to his positive views, he develops them on both the topics—Genius and Degeneration—separately. Genius he thinks cannot be psychologically defined, because it has no constant psychological differentia; there are geniuses and geniuses, and the discussion as to what constitutes a man a genius is beside the mark, for the disputant may be considering some other sort of genius. There is a good deal of truth in this, from the point of view of popular usage. And it is needful to say it, since the discussions of genius are made semi-popular usually even by the psychologists, who yield to the temptation to show, in one topic at least, that their science is not dry. The objective, uncolored, is usually dry; yet it is just the aim of exact science to be objective and uncolored. In this matter of genius, the psychologist should have a meaning for the word—if he use it at all—and the drier the meaning the better. Furthermore, Nordau and the rest may be better met on their own ground. The greatest of all the world's geniuses, even in popular confession, are the men who work revolutions in thought, not those who strike a spark from this particular anvil or that in our human workshop. And the law of variations, which holds as well of mental endowment as of biological equipment, accounts well enough for the wealth of contrast which such men show in the details of their mental constitution. Besides, while our author mentions the weakness of the use made of statistics by these quasi-scientists, he does not adequately explain their utter incapacity in this direction.

In the matter of degeneracy, Hirsch takes a very wide view, finding degeneracy "to embrace all cases of defective development of the psychical organ." "Degenerates are mental monstrosities." This would be accepted probably by very few competent judges. The definition of degeneracy in terms of down-hill heredity, of run-out blood and used-up stock, is the most current and the best, since it falls in line with the usage and theories of the biologists. But in the matter of diagnosis in any particular case—this so-called genius or that—it matters not what the definition of degeneracy be. For Hirsch's point holds, that in any case we cannot distinguish, merely from diagnosis of symptoms, whether a particular defect arises from heredity, disturbances of development, alcoholism, or what not. His critical banter of Nordau along this line is very entertaining.

Dr. Hirsch enlivens his work with many literary allusions, and gives us a chapter which we hardly had a right to expect: a chapter nominally on the question of Richard Wagner's supposed insanity, but really including a detailed study of Wagner's dramatic compositions. This is very instructive as showing the appreciation of a medical man for musical genius—and its limitations—but the inclusion of it in such a work looks like "stuffing." It will enhance the value of the book, however, for the popular reader, and give him information for which he should be seeking. On the whole, the work is healthy reading on morbid topics. The sections on education and genius and on the dangers to society from all the common talk about degeneration, sexual pathology, spiritism, telepathy, etc.—seeing that it tends to loosen the general criteria of reality in intellectual and moral things, and lessen their binding force—are most strongly to be commended.

Dahomé, Niger, Touareg: Récit de voyage. Par le Commandant Toutée. Paris: A. Colin & Cie. 1897. Map. Pp. xxi, 370. 12mo.

THE activity of the French in developing and extending their West African possessions has a fresh illustration in the above work. The account of the preparations for the mission and the march through Dahomey is dull; but as soon as the unexplored Bariba country is entered, a keen interest is awakened in the picturesque narrative of the author's reception by the kinglets of the various villages through which he passed, and of the manner in which he made treaties with them. In February, 1895, seven weeks after leaving the coast, he reached the Niger in latitude 9° 30′, where he founded a post and built boats for the ascent of the river. For some eight hundred miles he made his way up the stream until he came into the region under French influence. The obstacles to navigation from the numerous rapids he holds to have been greatly exaggerated by the few Europeans who have seen them. The country bordering the river in this part of its course, which had been described as largely desert, he found very fertile and highly cultivated in regions where the inhabitants were not exposed to the raids of the Touaregs. The only time when the expedition was obliged to fight was when it encountered an attack from these marauders, who keep a country larger than Egypt and with apparently greater resources practically a desolate wilderness.

M. Toutée takes frequent occasion to criticise the action of the Royal Niger Company towards French explorers, but he gracefully acknowledges the hospitality with which its officials treated him on his passage down the river. In a sober estimate of the value to France of the newly acquired territory, he says that he detected no signs of mineral wealth in it, and, though its soil is undoubtedly very rich, yet the climate renders white colonization impossible. He believes that the true policy is to allow the natives themselves to develop their land by defending them from the raids of the slave-hunting Mohammedans of the south and east, and from the Touaregs of the north. In his story the Commandant manifests a kindly and sympathetic feeling for the natives, as well as great tact in dealing with them. He justly prides himself on the peaceful character of his mission, with the single exception noted above, and there can be no doubt that the gold medal of the Société de Géographie bestowed upon him was well deserved. There is a map of the route followed by the expedition.

Topical Notes on American Authors. By Lucy Tappan. Boston, Silver, Burdett & Co.

WE cannot commend this work for either its plan or its execution. We are told in the preface that it is "the outgrowth of several years' teaching in the Gloucester [Mass.] High School." One would suppose that the compiler of a text-book on this subject would have read the preface to 'The Scarlet Letter'; and that a resident of Gloucester would have sufficient local knowledge to see how far from the truth is the statement that Hawthorne's surveyorship was "at the time of Salem's importance as a seaport." Some of Miss Tappan's facts are so novel that it would be interesting to know her authority—for example, that Samuel J. Tilden was a classmate of Emerson; nor is it easy to see how the latter can "now" make Concord "the Delphi of New England." Of Thoreau we are told that "he never left Concord except for a lecturing tour or a pedestrian excursion," though remarks on the next page show the incorrectness of this statement. Of Longfellow we learn that he abandoned the law for journalism, but no hint is given as to where or when he practised either. Cooper is said, correctly, to have written political novels, but, of the six mentioned as such, only two have anything to do with politics, while three show by their titles that they deal with mediæval Europe.

In the chapter on Poe we find two contributions to original knowledge, viz., that his parents were married in Boston, and that it was during his editorship of the *Messenger* that Mitchell's 'Reveries' were published therein. As this author was only fourteen when Poe ceased to be editor, his precocity was almost equal to that of Tilden, who, born in 1814, is represented as belonging to the Harvard class of 1821. In one other respect, however, this chapter is remarkable: where different authorities claim different employments for Poe at a particular date, Miss Tappan avoids the necessity of a discussion by narrating both without a hint that one excludes the other. Thus, before 1878, Poe's biographers, on his authority, said that in 1827 he started for Greece and was seen in St. Petersburg; in 1884 Mr. Woodberry discovered that during this time he was in the army. In this compendium we have both versions, given without reference or authority, as successive events.

The Children. By Alice Meynell. New York: John Lane.

IN this series of brief essays Mrs. Meynell very vividly contrasts the modern belief that childhood is a beauty and not a defect, with the mediæval idea that children were limbs of Satan, to be regenerated by sternness, and filled with wisdom and religion while still in infancy. John Evelyn's child, at five, had

"got by heart almost the entire vocabulary of Latin and French primitives and words, could make congruous syntax, turn English into Latin, and vice versa, construe and prove what he read, and did the government and use of relatives, verbs, subtantives, ellipses, and many figures and tropes, and made a considerable progress in Comenius's 'Janua,' and had a strong passion for Greek."

This child died—but the system of education based on the theory that a child was mentally and morally on a par with the instructor lasted well down to the middle of this century. Perhaps Mrs. Meynell goes to the other extreme in her appreciation. She presents us sublimated children, without suggestion of bad temper, greediness, or cruelty. She notes only their fine eyebrows and faultless color; their cold cheeks in midwinter; and their unconscious elegances of sentiment, language, and behavior—in short, she writes of them from a point of view wholly æsthetic.

The book is full of pleasant anecdotes, such as "the saying of a little boy who admired his much younger sister, and thought her forward for her age: 'I wish people knew just how old she is, mother, then they would know

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she is onward. They can see she is pretty, but they can't know she is such a onward baby.'" Mrs. Meynell writes a little too consciously, but she often conveys a trite observation in very graceful phraseology: "It is not true—though it is generally said—that a young child's senses are quick. This is one of the unverified ideas that commend themselves, one knows not why. . . . Not even amateur conjuring does so baffle the slow turning of a child's mind as does a little intricacy of grammar." "It is the sweet and entire forgiveness of children, who ask pity for their sorrows from those who have caused them, who do not perceive that they are wronged, who never dream that they are forgiving, and who make no bargain for apologies—it is this that men and women are urged to learn of a child."

The book is well printed; but, for the first essay of a new press, as it is advertised to be, it shows a lack of careful proof-reading that is not a little surprising.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

American Baptist Year-Book. 1897. Philadelphia: Baptist Publication Society.
Ballard, H. H. Re-Open Sesame; Rhymed Acrostics. Boston: L. C. Page & Co. $1.
Carlyle, Thomas. Heroes and Hero-Worship. The French Revolution, 3 vols. Cromwell's Letters and Speeches, Vol. I. [Centenary Edition.] Scribners.
France, Lewis B. Pine Valley. T. Y. Crowell & Co. $1.25.
Gibbins, H. de B. Industry in England: Historical Outlines. Scribners. $2.50.
Harper, Prof. G. McL. Augier's La Pierre de Touche. Boston: Ginn & Co.
Knowles, F. L. Cap and Gown. Second Series. Boston: L. C. Page & Co. $1.25.
Lombard, Louis. Observations of a Bachelor. F. T. Neely. 75c.
Marston, R. B. War Famine and Our Food Supply. London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co.
Nichols, Prof. E. L. The Outlines of Physics: An Elementary Text-Book. Macmillan. $1.40.
Parkhurst, Rev. C. H. Talks to Young Men. Talks to Young Women. The Century Co. Each $1.
Robbins, E. R. Algebra Reviews. Boston: Ginn & Co.
Smeaton, Olyphant. Tobias Smollett. [Famous Scots Series.] Scribners. 75c.
The Revolutionary Tendencies of the Age: Their Cause and Their Ultimate Aim. Putnams. $1.25.
Urmy, Clarence. A Vintage of Verse. San Francisco: William Doxey. $1.25.
Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Schuyler. One Man Who Was Content. The Century Co. $1.
Watts, W. C. Chronicles of a Kentucky Settlement. Putnams. $2.
Wendt, F. W. Ocean Sketches. New York: Colonial Book Co. 75c.
Wharton, Anne H. Martha Washington. Scribners.
Whiton, J. M. Reconsiderations and Reinforcements. Whittaker. 50c.

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